絶園のテンペスト

原作 城平京
構成 左有秀
作画 彩崎廉

9

～THE CIVILIZATION BLASTER～

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SQUARE ENIX.

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GC ガンガンコミックス

彩崎廉

アニメ放送終了と同時に原作も完結、となった本作品。最終話はページ数が過去もっとも多い上に2月進行があり短期間であげなければならず、その上表紙&巻頭カラーだったので歴代一番疲労困憊した思い出が刻まれました。最終話で一つの終わりを迎えましたが、特別編の連載がスタートしたので次巻もお手にとっていただければ嬉しいです。

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★この作品はフィクションです。実在の人物・団体・事件などには、いっさい関係ありません。

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~THE CIVILIZATION BLASTER~

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Chapter 40 - Her Story

THE CIVILIZATION BLASTER

Ah...

Have I seen her before, somewhere?

"Aika"... She's the girl that's going to be Mahiro's little sister.

That's right... In that picture...

オケ

.....

GET OUT OF MY SIGHT.
I DON'T NEED YOU TRYING TO HIT ON ME.
IS THERE SOME PLACE YOU'D LIKE TO GO?
Ha.
ブロロ
UMM... YOU'RE...
AIKA-CHAN, RIGHT?
YOU'RE GOING TO BE MAHIRO'S LITTLE SISTER?
I'M...
"AIKA-CHAN"?!

YEAH...
YOU ARE AIKA-CHAN... RIGHT?
COULD IT BE...
THAT YOU'RE "YOSHINO" -SAN?
YUP, THAT'S RIGHT.
MAHIRO SAID HE GAVE YOU MY PHONE NUMBER AND EMAIL ADDRESS...
HE ASKED ME TO LOOK AFTER YOU FOR A LITTLE WHILE.

beep beep
PLEASE WAIT A MOMENT
IT APPEARS...
THAT YOU REALLY ARE YOSHINO-SAN.
Aika
THIS IS YOUR NUMBER, RIGHT?
AH, NO...I MEAN...
YOU WOULD HAVE TO BE TO GET ALONG WITH HIM.
I WAS WONDERING WHAT KIND OF TRASHY PERSON COULD BE CALLED MAHIRO'S FRIEND, BUT
YOU SEEM RATHER DULL.

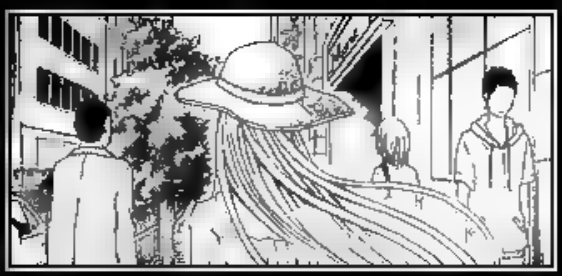
I HEARD YOU LIVED IN THE NEXT PREFECTURE OVER.
WHAT MADE YOU COME HERE TODAY?

UM...
IT'D BE MORE ACCURATE TO SAY THAT I'VE REACHED A STAGE OF ENLIGHTENMENT

MORE IMPORTANTLY...

AHH, I SEE.
IT'D BE TOUGH TO START LIVING IN A STRANGE TOWN ALL OF A SUDDEN, HUH...

I'LL BE MOVING HERE AT THE END OF THE MONTH, SO I THOUGHT I'D COME CHECK IT OUT
IT'S SUMMER VACATION, AFTER ALL, SO TIME'S NOT AN ISSUE.



Haa

QUITE RIGHT. SO, DON'T WORRY.
WELL, THEN...

NO... IF THAT'S THE CASE, I'LL SHOW YOU AROUND, THEN.
YOU CAN'T GET BY WITH JUST THE MAP IN FRONT OF THE STATION.
NO.
I HAVE NO OBLIGATION TO ACCEPT THAT.
THERE'S NO OBLIGATION BETWEEN US, BUT WE HAVE SOME SORT OF CONNECTION AT LEAST, RIGHT?
I'M FREE. IT'S SUMMER VACATION, AFTER ALL.
ARE YOU OK ON TIME?
.....

IT'S NOT LIKE I DON'T UNDER-STAND HOW HE FEELS..
WELL, IN ANY CASE, HE HAS A DATE TODAY..
DID HE PUT YOU UP TO THIS?
SHOWING YOU AROUND THE CITY...
SHOULD HAVE BEEN MAHIRO'S JOB, ORIGINALLY.
NOT A GIRL-FRIEND SO MUCH AS..
A PLAY-MATE.
HE HAS A GIRL-FRIEND?
HMPH.
SUCH SHALLOW RELATION-SHIPS ARE JUST LIKE HIM.
HE'S NEVER SETTLED WITH A SPECIFIC GIRLFRIEND, BUT HE'S QUITE POPULAR WITH OLDER WOMEN.
HE GETS ASKED OUT ALL THE TIME...

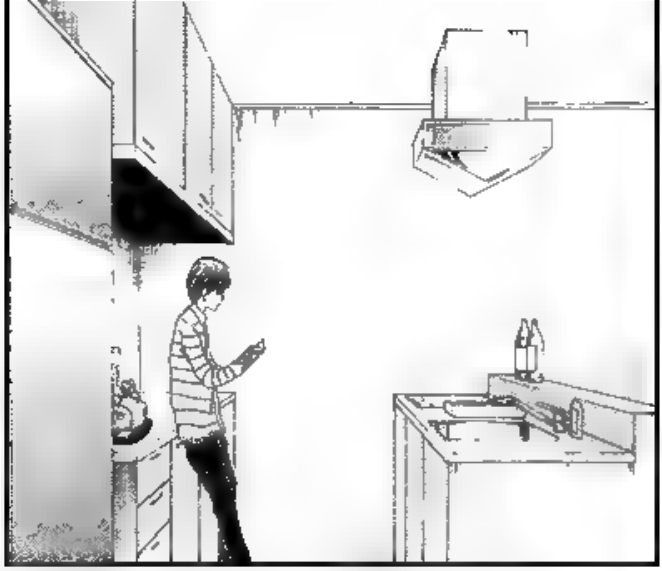
UM... IN ANY CASE...
HE'S ONLY SPENT TIME WITH OLDER WOMEN BEFORE, SO...
HE'S A BIT FRUST-RATED, SINCE HE DOESN'T KNOW HOW TO CONNECT WITH YOU, AS YOU'RE YOUNGER THAN HE IS.
SO, EVEN IF HIS ATTITUDE TOWARDS YOU IS POOR...
DON'T THINK TOO BADLY OF HIM.
BUT...
IT'S STILL POSSIBLE THAT HE ACTUALLY DESPISES ME, RIGHT?
WELL, IT IS POSSIBLE, BUT...
SO, AIKA-CHAN...
WHERE SHOULD WE GO FIRST?

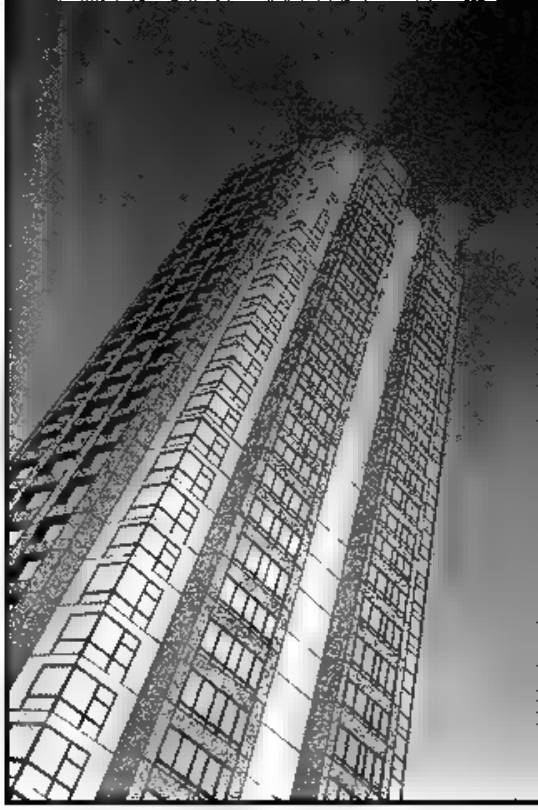
LET'S SEE...
THIS WAY, THEN.
CAN YOU SHOW ME THE WAY TO SCHOOL, THEN?

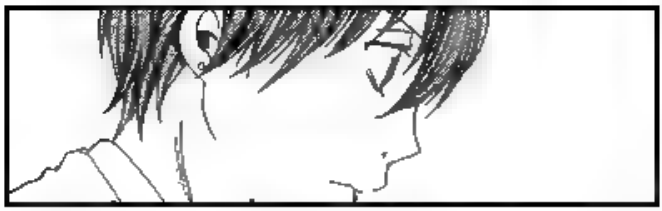
YOSHINO-SAN.
DO YOU GET CALLED A "STRANGE GUY" A LOT?
NO WAY.
I'M JUST AN AVERAGE, UNASSUMING MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENT.

?
THE VERY FIRST TIME THAT SOMEONE'S CALLED ME "-CHAN"
THIS IS.
I JUST DON'T GIVE OFF A CUTE VIBE BEFITTING "AIKA-CHAN," DON'T YOU THINK?
AFTER ALL...

IF YOU DON'T MIND IT, YOSHINO-SAN, THEN IT'S FINE.
IT'S NICE TO BE TREATED LIKE A NORMAL GIRL.
SHOULD I USE SOME-THING ELSE?
BUT, I DON'T KNOW WHAT ELSE I WOULD CALL MAHIRO'S LITTLE SISTER
pu...
C'MON...
I HAVE TO BE BETTER THAN MAHIRO AT LEAST.
YOU'RE BOTH STRANGE PEOPLE.
WHETHER IT'S YOU OR MAHIRO.





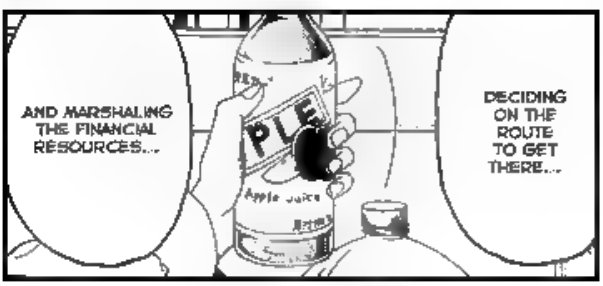


SURE.
NO PROBLEM.

YOSHINO.
DO YOU HAVE A MOMENT?

IT'S FRAULE·N, SAMON, AND THE OTHERS THAT ARE BUSY WITH THE PREPA·RATIONS.

HAKAZE-SAN, YOU'RE THE BUSY ONE, AREN'T YOU?
AREN'T YOU STILL MAKING PREPARA·TIONS FOR THE PLAN TO DESTROY THE "PILLAR"?


AND MARSHALING THE FINANCIAL RESOURCES...
DECIDING ON THE ROUTE TO GET THERE...

SO YOU'RE UNEXPECTEDLY RATHER FREE, HUH?
AS FOR PREPARATIONS ON MY END...
THERE'S A LOT THAT I'LL JUST HAVE TO IMPROVISE AT THE SCENE, AND I NEED TO PREPARE ENOUGH TALISMANS.
CONSIDERING THE TRANSPORTATION LIMITATIONS, THOUGH, I CAN'T MAKE TOO MANY RIGHT NOW.
FROM HERE ON IN...
DO YOU PLAN TO MOVE TOGETHER WITH MAHIRO?
IT SOUNDS PRETTY UNPLEASANT, BUT
IN THE END, I HAVE NO CHOICE.

WHAT YOU AND MAHIRO INTEND TO DO FROM HERE ON IN...
ISN'T SOMETHING THAT CAN BE FINISHED SIMPLY BY DEFEATING OR OBTAINING SOMETHING.

EVEN SO, IT THAT REALLY OKAY?

YOU GUYS...
MAY IN FACT BE EMBARKING ON A LONG, THANKLESS JOURNEY, WITH NO REWARD OR RETURN.

ORIGINALLY, MAHIRO'S PRIME OBJECTIVE WAS REVENGE, AND SAVING THE WORLD ALONG THE WAY WAS JUST PART OF THE PACKAGE.
BUT NOW, SAVING THE WORLD HAS BECOME THE PRIMARY MISSION.
IT'S A STRANGE THING.
WHEREAS I JUST WANTED TO PREVENT AIKA-CHAN'S DEATH FROM CAUSING MORE TRAGEDY.
BUT, IN THE END, IT'S BECOME ABOUT SAVING THE WORLD FOR ME, AS WELL.
THAT'S JUST LIKE FOLLOWING A SCRIPT LAID OUT BY SOMEONE ELSE...
HOW-EVER...

IT'S TERRIBLE.
NOT ONLY THAT, BUT MY RESOLVE ITSELF ENDED UP BEING A CAUSE FOR AIKA-CHAN'S DEATH.

AND, YET, YOU STILL WANT TO PROCEED?

LET MAHIRO GO AT IT ALONE, AFTER ALL, RIGHT?
I CAN'T...

TO BEGIN WITH...

HANE-MURA...
THIS IS A STRANGE BURDEN FOR YOU, RIGHT?

EVEN IF I WERE THE MAGICIAN OF EXODUS, I'D SAY NO WAY AND GET PISSED OFF

WANTING TO DESTROY THIS RIDI-CULOUS TREE, WITHOUT ANY COLLATERAL DAMAGE...
IS IMPOS-SIBLE, NO MATTER HOW YOU THINK OF IT.

AM I RIGHT?

YEAH. SAME GOES FOR THESE TWO.

IS THAT HOW IT IS?

IF IT WERE ME, INCIDENTALLY...
ス。。

I'D GIVE IT MY ALL, BUT...

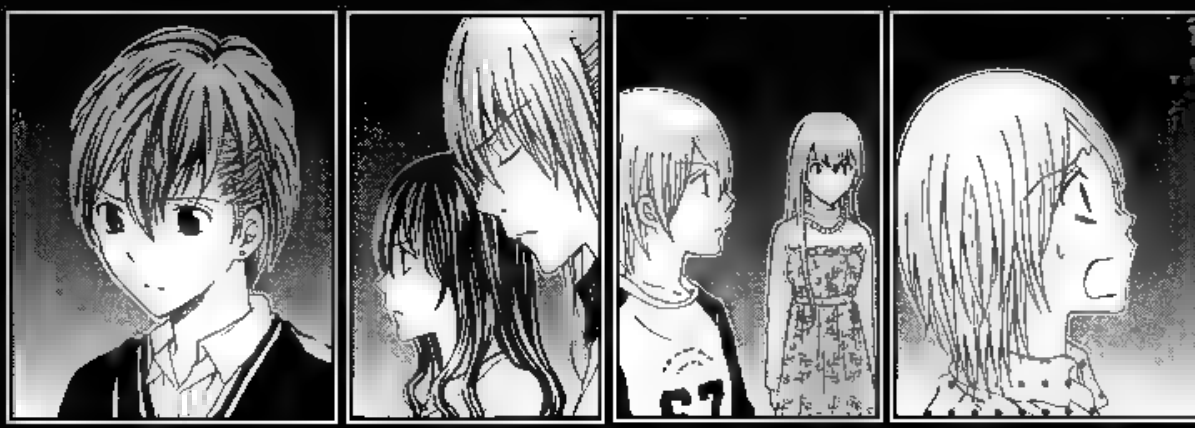
IF WE SHOW THEM THE DIFFERENCE IN POWER. .
THE REMAINING SHIPS WILL HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO PULL BACK.

I'D START OFF WITH SOME THREATENING ATTACKS AGAINST THE ENTIRE FLEET.
パ
THEN, I'D SINK A DOZEN SHIPS OR SO.
パ

THIS MAY INDEED BE AN EASY AND EFFECTIVE STRATEGY...
BUT IF YOU THINK ABOUT THE CONDITION THE WORLD WILL BE IN AFTERWARDS, AND THE ENSUING CHAOS.

THIS WAY, NOT ONLY CAN WE MINIMIZE THE CASUALTIES...
BUT WE CAN SAVE OUR STRENGTH TO DESTROY THE "PILLAR."

EVEN WITH ZERO COLLATERAL DAMAGE, YOU'RE NOT SAVING US MUCH TROUBLE IN THE LONG RUN.
EVEN IF THERE'S ZERO COLLATERAL DAMAGE WITH THE DESTRUCTION OF THE "PILLAR," THE WORLD WILL STILL BE IN CHAOS AND MANY PEOPLE WILL STILL DIE.
DON'T WASTE YOUR TIME THINKING ABOUT THAT.
AFTER THE "TREE OF GENESIS" IS GONE, THIS WORLD WILL PLUNGE INTO AN AGE OF TERROR. YOU UNDER-STAND THIS, RIGHT?



IF THE "PILLAR" ISN'T DESTROYED, THEN THIS VERY WORLD IS DONE FOR
HOWEVER...

UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, IF IT CAN'T BE DEFEATED IN TIME...
THEN THAT WILL BE OUR GREATEST LOSS.

RATHER THAN HAVE HANEMURA FAIL BECAUSE HE'S AFRAID OF CASUALTIES,
WE'D BE BETTER OFF SINKING THE ENTIRE FLEET IN ORDER TO DESTROY THE PILLAR...

IS THE GREATEST OBSTACLE TO DEFEATING THE "TREE OF GENESIS."
THE WORLD SEEING "EXODUS" AS AN ENEMY...

THE WORLD WILL NOT RETURN TO PEACE .F YOU DEFEAT THE DEMON KING OR THE DRAGON KING.
THAT IS IMPOSSIBLE.
THIS IS NOT A ROLE-PLAYING GAME.
IF THINGS GO BADLY, THEN MAYBE EVEN THE WORLD WOULD HAVE BEEN BETTER OFF UNDER THE DEMON KING'S CONTROL.
THAT KIND OF THING CAN HAPPEN, TOO.
AFTER THE DEMON KING'S RE.GN IS OVER ..
CONFLICT WILL ERUPT AMONG HUMANS.
BUT, DIDN'T AIKA-SAN CREATE THESE CIRCUMSTANCES TO BEGIN WITH?
IF AIKA-SAN HADN'T DIED LIKE THAT THEN MAYBE THINGS WOULD HAVE DEVELOPED DIFFERENTLY...

I WASN'T TRYING TO SAY THAT AIKA-SAN...
AHHH... I'M SORRY.
IT'S ALL AIKA'S FAULT.
THAT'S HOW IT IS.
SHE COULDN'T RELY ON ANYONE ELSE, RIGHT TO THE VERY END.
SURELY SHE WOULD HAVE FOUND A BETTER SOLUTION IF ONLY SHE HAD DISCUSSED THINGS WITH ME.
SHE DID THIS, THINKING SHE WAS IN THE RIGHT, AND BROUGHT ALL OF THIS ABOUT.

FAMILY TAKES CARE OF ITSELF, RIGHT?
IF IT'S MY LITTLE SISTER'S FAULT, THEN IT'S ONLY RIGHT THAT I, THE OLDER BROTHER, TAKE RESPONSIBILITY, RIGHT?
67
HANE-MURA...
IT'S NOT QUITE ASKING THE IMPOSSIBLE FROM YOU, BUT SUDDENLY FORCING THIS UNWANTED POWER ON YOU, AND THEN FORCING THIS ROLE ON YOU...
GIVING YOU THAT KIND OF BURDEN IS UNREASON-ABLE.

SO NOW, I BOW MY HEAD TO YOU.

BUT...
ONLY YOU CAN DO THIS.

AND ALSO FOR THE CRUEL YEARS THAT WILL FOLLOW.

BUT, WE HAVE TO BE PREPARED FOR SACRIFICES AS WELL.
THE STRATEGY WE'RE PLANNING HAS THE POTENTIAL FOR ZERO CASUALTIES IF THINGS GO WELL...

IN EXCHANGE,
I WILL WORK TOWARD THE CREATION OF A WORLD WHERE DEFEATING THE TREE WILL HAVE BEEN WORTH IT, EVEN IF THERE WERE SACRIFICES.

I WILL BRING THIS WORLD TO THE RIGHT PATH, EVEN WITHOUT MAGIC.
A WORLD THAT MOVES AT MY COMMAND.
?...
AS I STAND NOW, I'M JUST A KID WITH NO POWER OR ANY SORT OF QUALIFICATIONS.
BUT, WITHIN 30 YEARS I WILL DEFINITELY STAND IN A POSITION WHERE I CAN CHANGE THE WORLD.
HUH? STOP JOKING AROUND!
HMM.
THERE WILL BE ONE.
WHAT WOULD THAT BE?
A POSITION WHERE YOU CAN CHANGE THE WORLD?
IT'S DEFINITELY POSSIBLE, RIGHT?
YOSHINO WILL BE ON MY SIDE AS WELL.
UH...
YOU DON'T THINK I CAN CHANGE THE WORLD?
PLUS

YOU HAVE TO DO AT LEAST THAT MUCH, RIGHT?
HAS IT ALREADY BEEN DEC DED THAT I'M GOING TO HELP YOU DO THIS?
THE AGE OF CRUELTY CANNOT BE AVOIDED.
BUT, I'LL WAGER THE REST OF MY LIFE IN ORDER TO PUT A STOP TO THAT THING

I WILL SAVE THIS WORLD.
67

WE HAVE A PLAN ALREADY.
IF THERE ARE ANY FLAWS, POINT THEM OUT TO ME.

ス。。

SO, FIRST...
LET'S FLESH OUT A DETAILED STRATEGY TO DESTROY THE "PILLAR"

DOES THAT GUY...
PLAN TO RULE THE WORLD?
SHEESH...
YOU THINK MAHIRO'S A GOOD PERSON, TOO?
AT LEAST HE'D BE THE WORLD'S PROTECTOR, RIGHT?
THAT GUY'S TOO GOOD FOR HIS OWN GOOD.
PFFT. . A GOOD GUY THAT HATES BEING A GOOD GUY, HUH?
SUCH A COMPLICATED GUY.
HE'D HATE THAT LABEL, PERSONALLY.

HOWEVER .
I KNOW I DON'T NEED TO WORRY ABOUT YOU TWO.
THINGS HAVE CHANGED, AFTER ALL.
YOU SAID I WAS PUSHING IT AND ACTING FINE...
YOU'RE NOT MAD ANYMORE?
YOU WERE NEVER A MAN THAT NEEDED ME TO SAY ANYTHING AT ALL.
IF THAT'S THE CASE, I HAVE NOTHING MORE TO SAY
EVEN IF YOU'RE PUSHING IT, YOU KNOW WHAT YOU HAVE TO DO, AND YOU'RE MOVING FORWARD.

AFTER GETTING TOLD OFF BY HANE-MURA...
YOU ALMOST DIED.

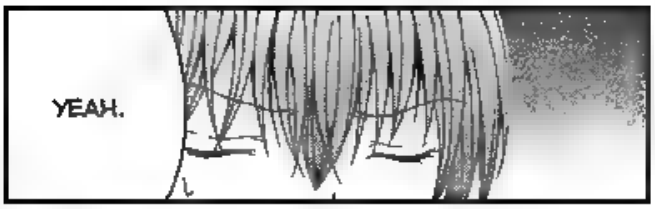
PLUS,

SO, THEN...
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT NOW, HAKAZE-SAN?

AS LONG AS... YOU GUYS ARE OK...
I CAN FIGHT.

YEAH.

REALLY?


YEAH.

WHAT?
YOU STILL LIKE ME?!

YOSHINO.
YOU KNOW I'M CRAZY ABOUT YOU, RIGHT...?

Do you feel burdened? Is it a crime?
Is there something wrong with liking the same man for half a year?
I WOULDN'T CALL IT A CRIME...

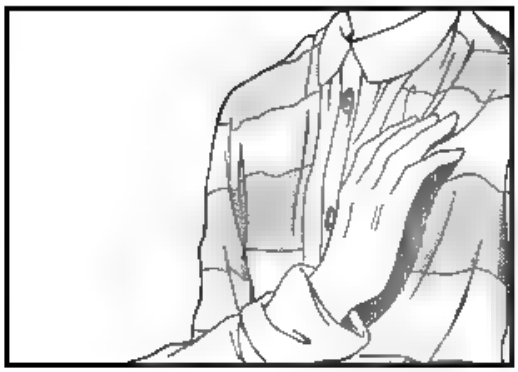
WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN?!

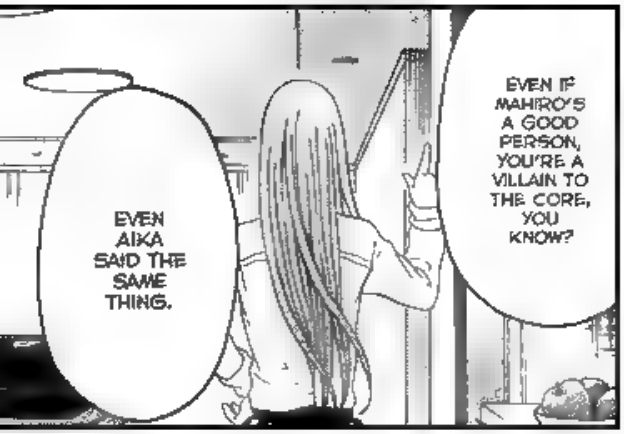
Ho
I THOUGHT YOU DEFINITELY HATED ME...
HOW PERSIS-TENT...

YOU SAY THAT, BUT IF SOMETHING WERE TO HAPPEN...
YOU'D DROP EVERYTHING TO COME HELP ME, NO QUESTIONS ASKED, RIGHT?

SHEESH...

ISN'T THAT JUST NATURAL?




EVEN AIKA SAID THE SAME THING.
EVEN IF MAHIRO'S A GOOD PERSON, YOU'RE A VILLAIN TO THE CORE, YOU KNOW?

I'LL TELL YOU THIS, YO-SHINO.

THAT'S THE WORST THING ABOUT YOU.
YOU HAVEN'T EVEN NOTICED YOURSELF.

HUH?
WHY DOES IT HAVE TO BE LIKE THAT?!

THANK YOU FOR TODAY.
I'LL REPAY YOU FOR YOUR KINDNESS SOMEDAY.
IT'S NOT A MATTER OF WHO OWES WHAT.
PLUS, IF IT'S ANYONE, IT WOULD BE MA-HIRO.
.....
YOU KNOW...

I STILL DON'T KNOW YOUR FULL NAME, YOSHINO-SAN.
THE CELL PHONE'S PHONEBOOK ONLY LISTS "YOSHINO" AS WELL.
CAN YOU TELL ME?
MIGHT AS WELL, THOUGH IT'S TAKEN THIS LONG
IT'S TAKIGAWA YOSHINO.
THE KANJI IS WRITTEN WITH...
"YOSHINO" ISN'T YOUR FAMILY NAME?!
AH...
YOU DIDN'T KNOW?
YEAH
I THOUGHT FOR SURE IT WAS YOUR FAMILY NAME.

I'M VERY SORRY!

Ahhhh...
I want to find a hole to crawl into.

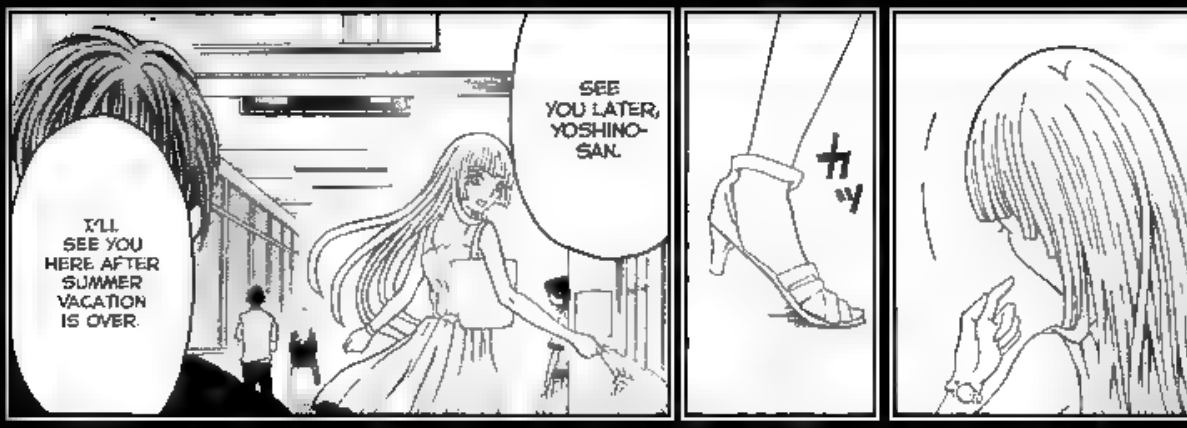
I'M TOO CARELESS!
IT'S OUR FIRST TIME MEETING AND I'VE BEEN CALLING YOUR GIVEN NAME THIS WHOLE TIME!

Not telling me your full name to begin with...
Mahiro has responsibility too...

IT'S NOTHING! NO NEED TO APOLOGIZE.

TAKIGAWA-SAN.
IN ANY CASE, MY APOLOGIES...

BEING ADDRESSED THAT WAY NOW
ACTUALLY FEELS STRANGE.
I THINK SO, TOO.
THEN, CAN I CALL YOU "YOSHINO-SAN" FROM NOW ON?
IF YOU'RE OK WITH IT, AIKA-CHAN.
THEN, YOSHINO-SAN IT IS.


SEE YOU LATER, YOSHINO-SAN.
I'LL SEE YOU HERE AFTER SUMMER VACATION IS OVER.
トン
トン

YEAH, UNTIL NEXT TIME.

SO, THERE ARE ONLY 7 PEOPLE ON THE TEAM TO DESTROY THE "PILLAR"??
CAN'T WE HAVE MORE?

カラオケ

ピロピロ
SEND THESE MEMBERS OVERSEAS TO LOOK INTO THE SHIPS.
PREPARE THE MEASURES TO APPROACH THE "PILLAR."

OUR FINANCIAL RESOURCES ARE LIMITED NOW, AND WE CAN'T UNDERTAKE ANY CONSPICUOUS ACTIVITIES.
THE MORE PEOPLE, THE MORE OF A RISK IT WOULD BE.

WITHIN SEVERAL TENS OF KILOMETERS OF THE PILLAR, KUSARIBE MAGIC CANNOT BE USED.
EVEN IF IT COULD BE, WHAT ABOUT THE OFFERINGS NEEDED?

CAN WE INCREASE THE NUMBER OF MAGICIANS FOR BATTLE POWER?
THE KUSARIBE TRIBE'S MAGICIANS SHOULD HAVE MOSTLY RECOVERED, RIGHT?

OUR HANDS ARE TIED, HUH?

WE'RE NOT GOING IN WITH SHIPS FIRING, SO WE'RE LIMITED IN THE QUANTITY OF OFFERINGS THAT CAN BE TRANSPORTED.
CARELESSLY BRINGING IN MORE MAGICIANS WILL JUST CAUSE MORE TROUBLE.

FURTHER-MORE...

I SEE..
PRECAUTIONS NEED TO BE TAKEN THERE, AS WELL..

IT WAS ESTABLISHED EARLY ON...
THAT THE OTHER KUSARIBE MAGICIANS WOULD BE POSTED TO THE "TREE OF EXODUS" AT MT. FUJI...

THE "TREE OF EXODUS..."

BACK THEN, WE WERE FORCED TO RELEASE THE LAST FRUIT WITHOUT WAITING FOR THE PRINCESS'S RETURN.
THE SUBSEQUENT CHANGES WERE QUITE CONCERNING.

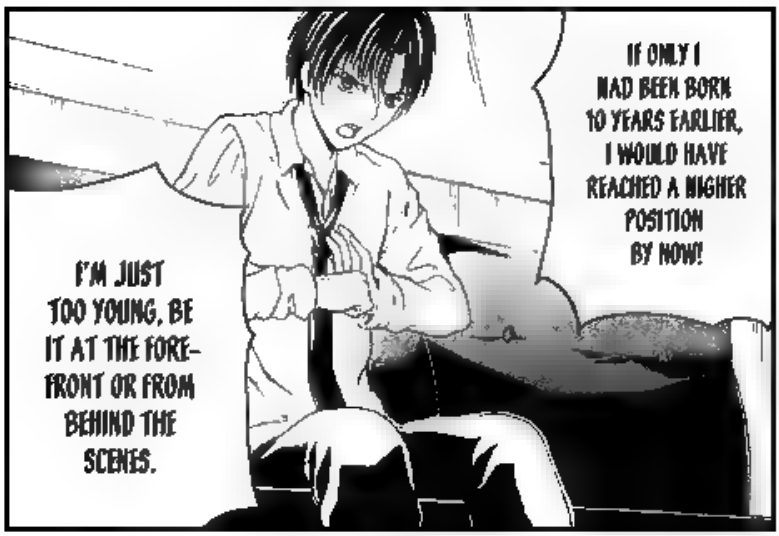
DESPITE ABSORBING THE LAST FRUIT, IT HAS YET TO SHOW ANY SIGNIFICANT CHANGES. IT REMAINS SILENT.
REPORTS INDICATE THAT THE ENERGY IT WAS PREVIOUSLY EMITTING IS NOW BEING TURNED INWARDS.
WILL THAT...
PROVOKE SOME VIOLENT REACTION FROM THE "TREE OF EXODUS"?
WHEN DESTROYING THE "PILLAR" ...
HANEMURA-KUN SHOULD BE ABLE TO EXERT ALL OF THE AVAILABLE "POWER OF EXODUS."
THE THOUSANDS OF RESEARCHERS AND GUARDS SURROUNDING THE "TREE OF EXODUS"...
WILL GET SUCKED IN ALSO, RIGHT?
IN THAT CASE...

PLUS, RIGHT NOW, WORKERS AND THE MILITARY'S TOP BRASS...
FROM MANY DIFFERENT COUNTRIES ARE OBSERVING THE AREA.

IN ORDER TO MINIMIZE CASUALTIES CAUSED BY THE "TREE OF EXODUS"...
WE HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO SEND THE REMAINING KUSARIBE CLANSMEN TO MT. FUJI

IF ONLY I HAD MORE POWER...
THEN YOU WOULDN'T BE IN THIS CONDITION NOW...

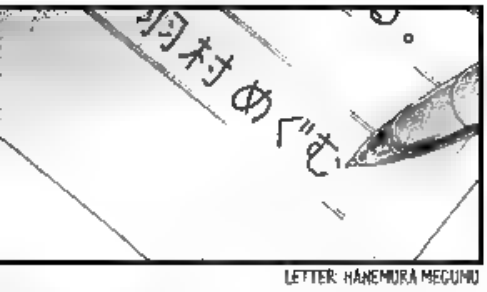
THE CONSEQUENCES WOULD BE TERRIBLE IF SOMETHING WERE TO HAPPEN...


IF ONLY I HAD BEEN BORN 10 YEARS EARLIER, I WOULD HAVE REACHED A HIGHER POSITION BY NOW!
I'M JUST TOO YOUNG, BE IT AT THE FORE-FRONT OR FROM BEHIND THE SCENES.

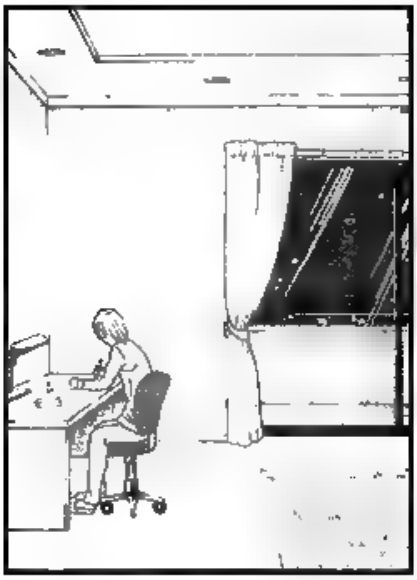
DAMNIT!

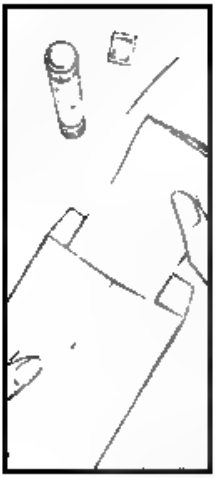
ポン
ポン
HAYA-KAWA.
YOU JUST WORRY ABOUT HOW TO QUELL THE CHAOS AFTER THE "PILLAR" IS DESTROYED.
THERE'S NO USE TO LAMENTING THAT NOW.
WE JUST HAVE TO DO WHAT WE CAN.
WASN'T THE FUTURE LOOKING DARK EVEN BEFORE THE "PILLAR" APPEARED?
THERE'S REALLY NOT MUCH HOPE...
I KNOW.
BUT THINGS ARE LOOKING BAD ON THAT END AS WELL.
IF THINGS ARE AS YOU SAID BEFORE...
THEN MAYBE THAT IS THE SORT OF WORLD THAT'S MEANT FOR US...

IF WE CAN PULL THROUGH ANOTHER 15 YEARS OR SO...
FUWA MAHIRO AND TAKEGAWA YOSHINO WILL HAVE EVEN MORE INFLUENCE THAN YOU DO NOW.
AND EVERYTHING CAN TURN AROUND.
WILL THINGS WORK OUT THAT WELL?
HOPE MUST REMAIN AFTER ANY CATASTROPHE.
BUT THAT'S JUST IN MYTHS AND LEGENDS, RIGHT?



LETTER: HANEMURA MEGUMU





LETTER: KITASENRI SAKURAKO

THE CIVILIZATION CLASSICS

ZETSUEN NO TEMPEST

by SHIRODAIRA Kyou
and SAIZAKI Ren

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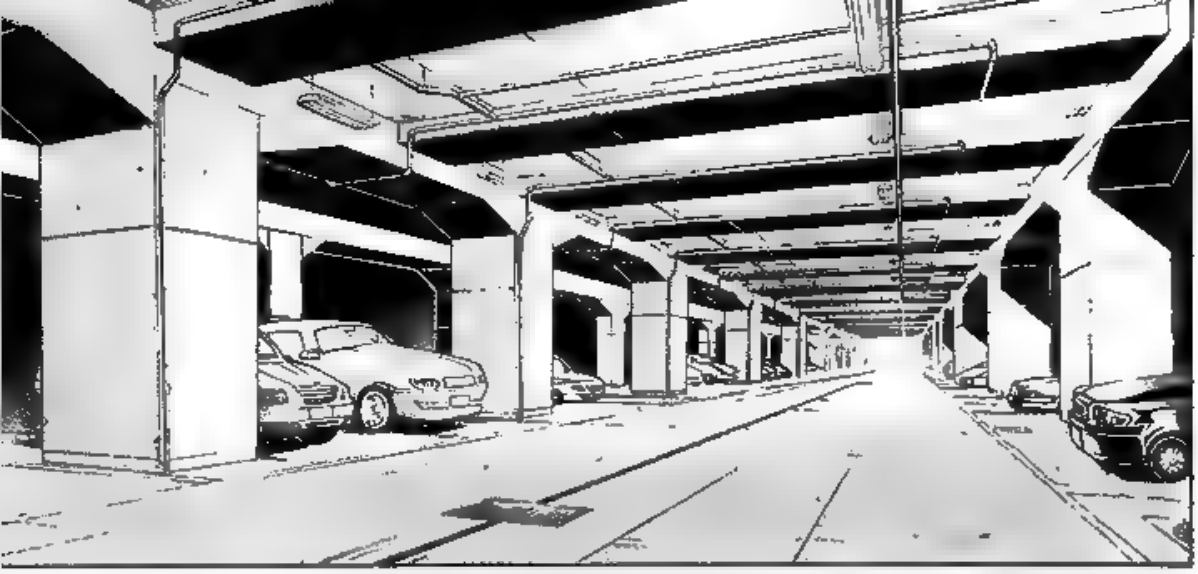
Chapter 41 ~ Like It Was Predetermined

THE CIVILIZATION BLASTER



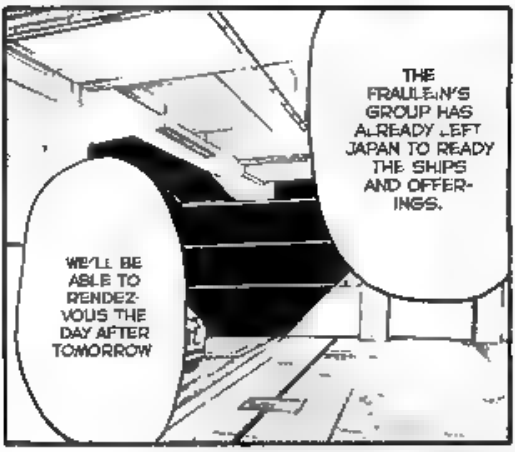
WE FINALLY GET TO GO ON AN OVERSEAS VACATION.
BUT THE MOOD ISN'T QUITE RIGHT, HUH?

PHEW...

HMM.
AN INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS TRIP, THEN?

CALLING IT "BUSINESS" SO CASUALLY IS ALSO A BIT

WELL, WE ARE GOING TO GO AND FIGHT FOR THE FATE OF THE WORLD.
CALLING IT AN "OVERSEAS VACATION" IS A BIT...


THE FRAULEIN'S GROUP HAS ALREADY LEFT JAPAN TO READY THE SHIPS AND OFFERINGS.
WE'LL BE ABLE TO RENDEZVOUS THE DAY AFTER TOMORROW

THE PRINCESS AND HANEMURA WILL BE SETTING OUT TOGETHER.

IT'LL BE ABOUT A WEEK BEFORE WE CAN SET OUT FOR THE WATERS NEAR THE "PILLAR."

How is the work going on your side?
Hayakawa.

IT'S UNCLEAR HOW MUCH THEY BELIEVE IT AT PRESENT, BUT...
WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO GET A FEEL FOR HOW THE SHIPS ON THE SCENE WILL RESPOND.
IT'S COMING ALONG SOMEHOW.
I'VE ALREADY LEAKED INFORMATION THAT THE "MAGICIAN OF EXODUS" IS TARGETING THE "PILLAR."
THIS BATTLE WILL DECIDE EVERYTHING.
DON'T DIE.
LOOKING BACK ON MY PAST ACTIONS...
IT LOOKS LIKE I'M ABOUT DUE FOR SOME PAYBACK.
THAT IS WHY I'M TELLING YOU NOT TO DIE.
YOU'RE NOT THE ONLY ONE WITH A GUILTY PAST. IF YOU HAPPEN TO DIE AN UGLY DEATH I WOULD BE CONCERNED FOR MY OWN FUTURE.

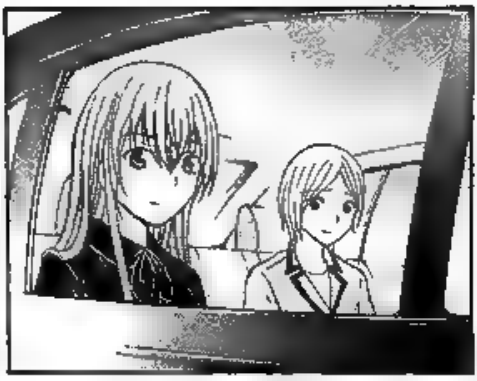
MAHIRO-KUN!
IF SOME-THING HAPPENS TO ME, I WANT YOU TO SEND THIS OUT FOR ME.
YEAH.
IF I GET HOME SAFELY THERE WON'T BE ANY NEED THOUGH...
FOR YOUR EX-GIRL FRIEND?
LOOK..
THAT TOOK ME THREE DAYS TO WRITE, YOU KNOW!
AAAAH! W-WHAT DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?

IF YOU HAVE SOMETHING TO SAY THEN LIVE AND TELL HER YOURSELF
THE NEW "MAGICIAN OF EXODUS" WOULDN'T MAKE IT IN TIME. THIS ISN'T THE TIME TO BE WRITING LETTERS.
THE MOMENT SOMETHING HAPPENS TO YOU, IS THE MOMENT THIS WORLD ENDS.
Blaster Cafe
LIKE A SIMULTANEOUS STRIKE IN KENDO!
MAYBE SOMETHING LIKE THAT WOULD BE THE KEY TO DEFEATING THE "TREE OF GENESIS," YOU KNOW?
WELL, YOU KNOW HOW SOMETIMES THE MAIN CHARACTER OF A MOVIE WILL RISK HIS LIFE TO DO AN AWESOME ATTACK
IF YOU ESCAPE WE CAN ALWAYS COME UP WITH ANOTHER STRATEGY TO WIN.
BUT YOU'RE NOT THE MAIN CHARACTER OF A MOVIE, ARE YOU? WHAT WILL YOU DO IF YOU RISK YOUR LIFE ATTACKING AND LOSE?
IF IT LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE GOING TO LOSE, THEN RUN FOR IT.

I OWE YOU ONE.
YOU CAN'T GO DYING OFF BEFORE I RETURN THE FAVOR.
ALSO..
YOU OWE ME...?
DON'T THINK ABOUT WHAT HAPPENS AFTERWARDS.
EVEN IF YOU MESS UP, OR NO MATTER HOW MANY SACRIFICES ARE MADE, I'M ON YOUR SIDE.
I'LL PAY FOR YOUR MISTAKES.
JUSTICE

GO AND HAVE SOME FUN.
YOU'RE NEVER GONNA HAVE SUCH A MASSIVE STAGE IN YOUR LIFE.
O-KAY!
WAIT FOR ME TO COME BACK!

ブロロロ



WELL THERE'S NOTHING WE CAN DO ABOUT THAT
EVEN IF WE GO WE'LL JUST GET IN THE WAY.

IT'S LONELY BEING POWER-LESS.
YOU CAN ONLY WAVE AS YOU SEND OTHERS OFF.

WORDS AND BLUFFS WOULDN'T GET YOU PAST SOMETHING LIKE THAT.
コツ

DO YOU REALLY THINK I'M VILLAINOUS ENOUGH..
TO LIE ABOUT SOMETHING LIKE THAT?

I'M JUST GOING TO ASK JUST IN CASE, BUT .
WHAT YOU TOLD HANEMURA-SAN JUST NOW WASN'T A BLUFF WAS IT?

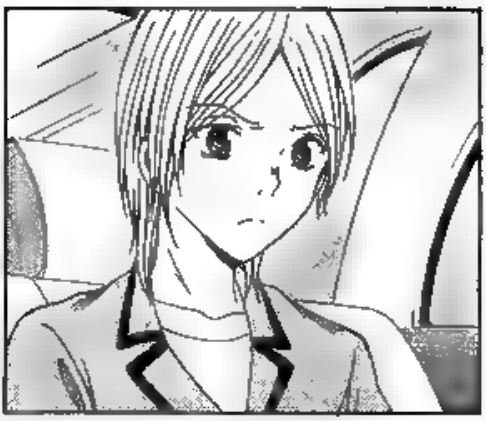
コツ
コツン

I WONDER...
I TRY TO LIVE CLEANLY AND JUSTLY, YOU KNOW.

WELL...
YOU, ON THE OTHER HAND, PROBABLY COULD, THOUGH.

SAYS THE GUY THAT WAS HIDING THE FACT THAT HE WAS DATING AIKA FROM ME?

IT SEEMS YOU'VE MARSHALED THE RESOLVE...
TO FIGHT.



I CAN'T HELP BUT THINK.
BUT. .

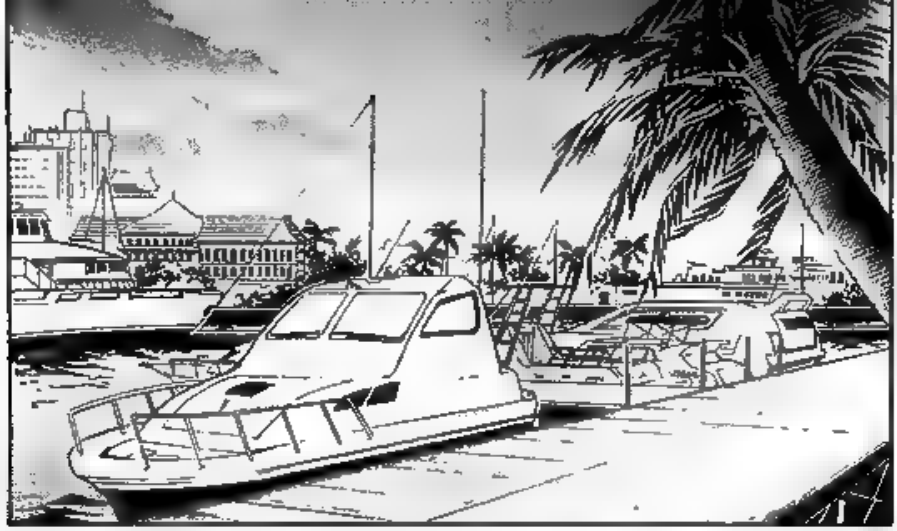
I'VE COME THIS FAR. I CAN'T BE SO PITIFUL FOREVER.

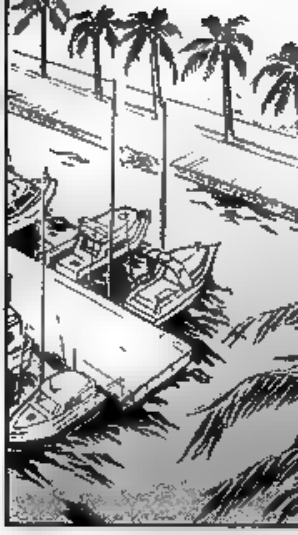
DEFEAT THE "TREE OF GENESIS."
THAT IF SOMEBODY ELSE WERE THE "MAGICIAN OF EXODUS", SURELY THAT PERSON COULD EASILY AND ASSUREDLY

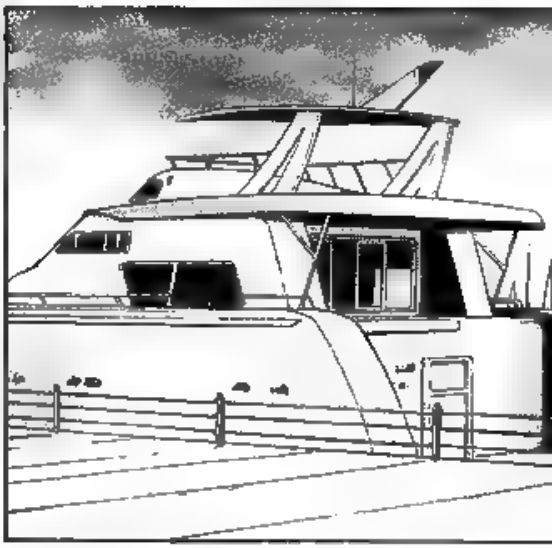
I'M GLAD YOU'RE THE "MAGICIAN OF EXODUS."
WELL...

THEN SURELY MANY PEOPLE WOULD DIE.
IF YOU WERE A PERSON WHO DIDN'T CARE ABOUT OTHER PEOPLE'S LIVES SO LONG AS YOU COULD ACCOMPLISH YOUR OBJECTIVE.
IT'S BECAUSE OF YOU THAT MAHIRO COULD CREATE A PLAN THAT ENTAILED NO CASUALTIES.

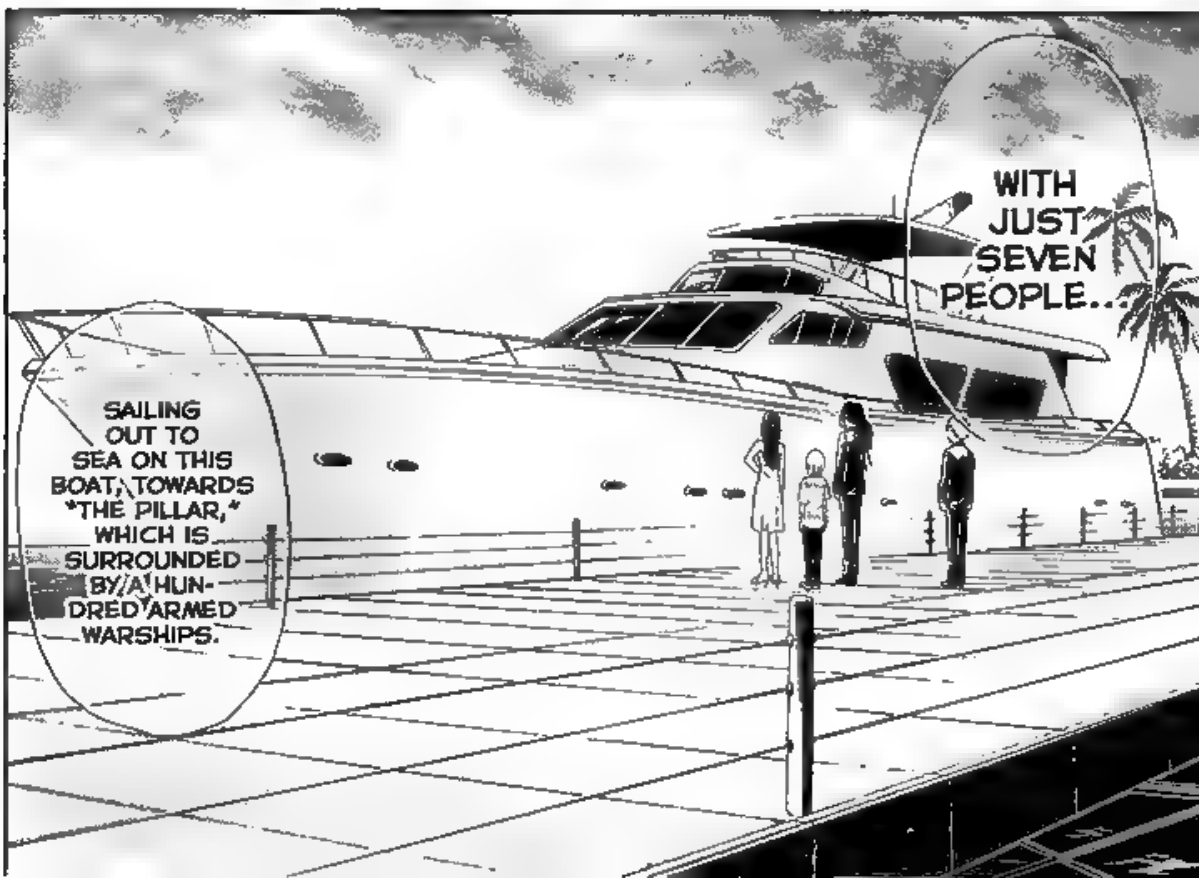
WHAT-EVER THE OUT-COME...
KEEPING PEOPLE FROM DYING IS THE BEST OPTION.
EVEN IF THIS PLAN GOES THROUGH WITHOUT ANY CASUALTIES, IT MAY BE AS MAHIRO SAYS AND WE COULD JUST BE DOING THIS FOR NOTHING.
BUT THERE'S STILL A CHANCE.
WELL, DON'T OVERDO IT.
THERE'S STILL SOME TIME BEFORE THE BATTLE.
I'M SORRY FOR SAYING SOMETHING COWARDLY AGAIN.
THIS WILL BE THE LAST TIME.
ガチャ
IF YOU GET SO FIRED UP NOW YOU'LL JUST BURN YOURSELF OUT





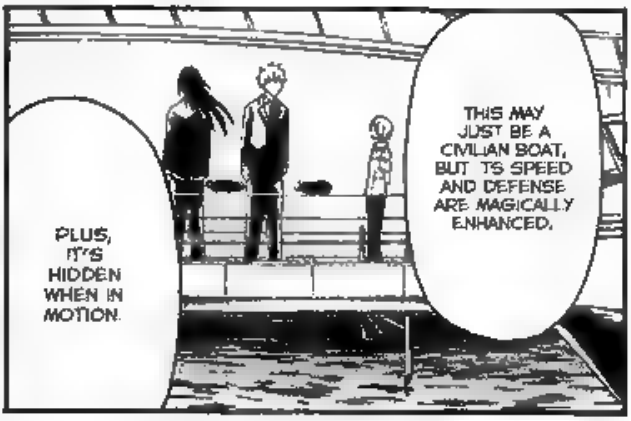


THE VERY IDEA OF IT IS PREPO-STEROUS.


WITH JUST SEVEN PEOPLE...
SAILING OUT TO SEA ON THIS BOAT, TOWARDS *THE PILLAR,* WHICH IS SURROUNDED BY A HUN-DRED ARMED WARSHIPS.

WE'LL BE ALL RIGHT, TETSUMA-SAN.

AND, OF THE CREW, FIVE ARE MAGICIANS.
WITH TWO THAT ARE TOP-CLASS, NO LESS.


THIS MAY JUST BE A CIVILIAN BOAT, BUT TS SPEED AND DEFENSE ARE MAGICALLY ENHANCED.
PLUS, IT'S HIDDEN WHEN IN MOTION.

KUSARIBE MAGIC CANNOT BE USED.
WITHIN THE SEA WHERE THE SHIPS CURRENTLY LIE...

BUT...

THAT'S WHAT FUWA MAHIRO'S STRATEGY IS FOR, ISN'T IT?

IN REALITY, ASIDE FROM HANEMURA..
NO ONE ELSE CAN APPROACH THE SHIPS WITH MAGIC.

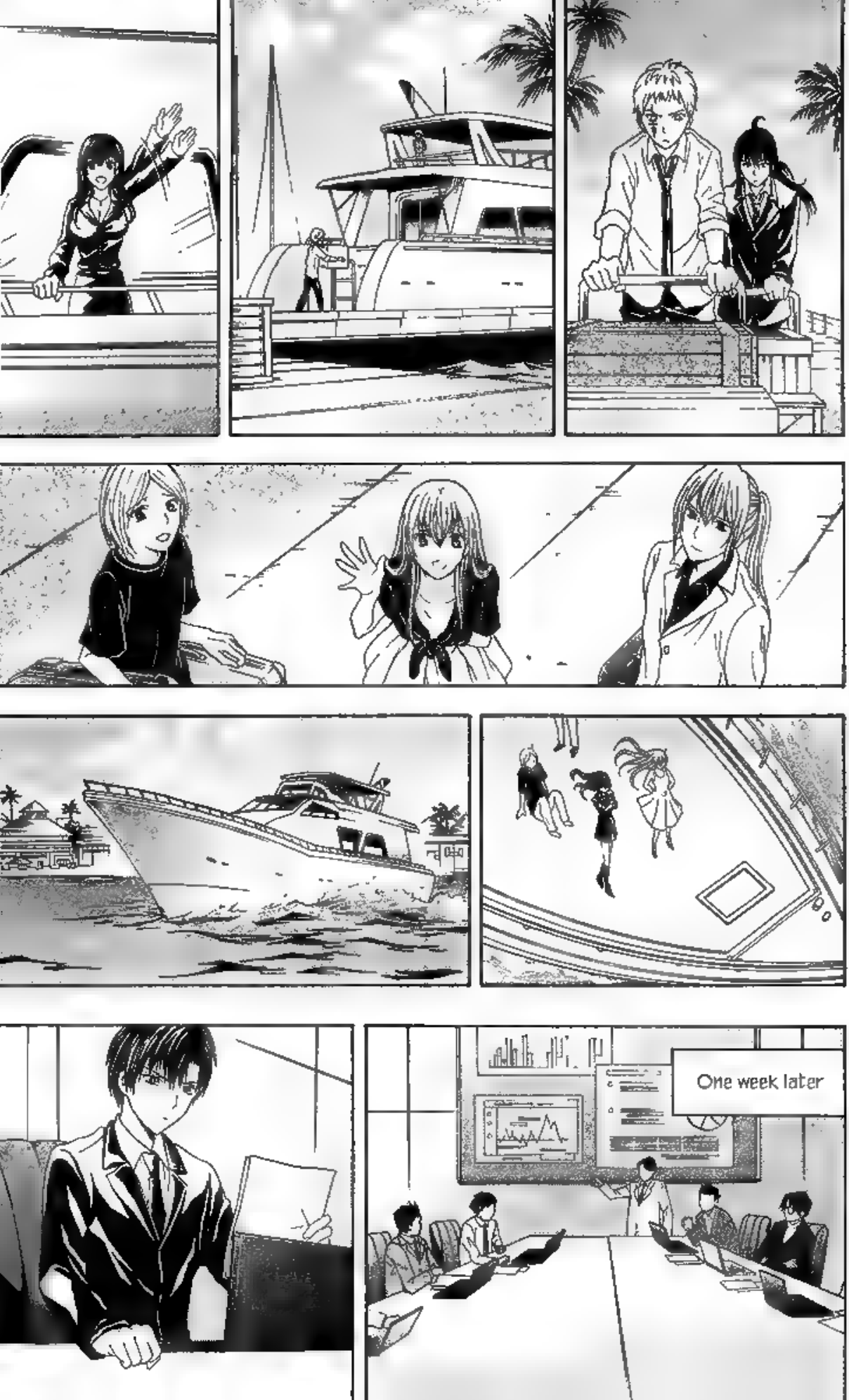
IF WE CAN LURE THE WARSHIPS TO AN AREA WHERE WE CAN USE MAGIC, THEN THE BATTLE IS OURS!

LET'S HURRY WITH THE PREPARATIONS.
THERE'S A MOUNTAIN OF PROVISIONS AND OFFERINGS TO LOAD.

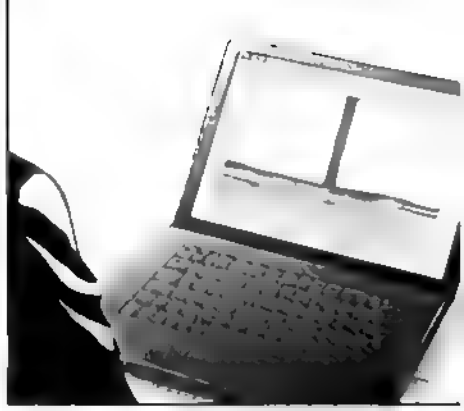
I WONDER HOW MUCH WE CAN REALLY ON THE PLAN OF SOMEONE...
WHO ISN'T EVEN GOING TO BE ON THE SCENE.

カツ
WELL...
WORRYING ABOUT IT WON'T HELP.

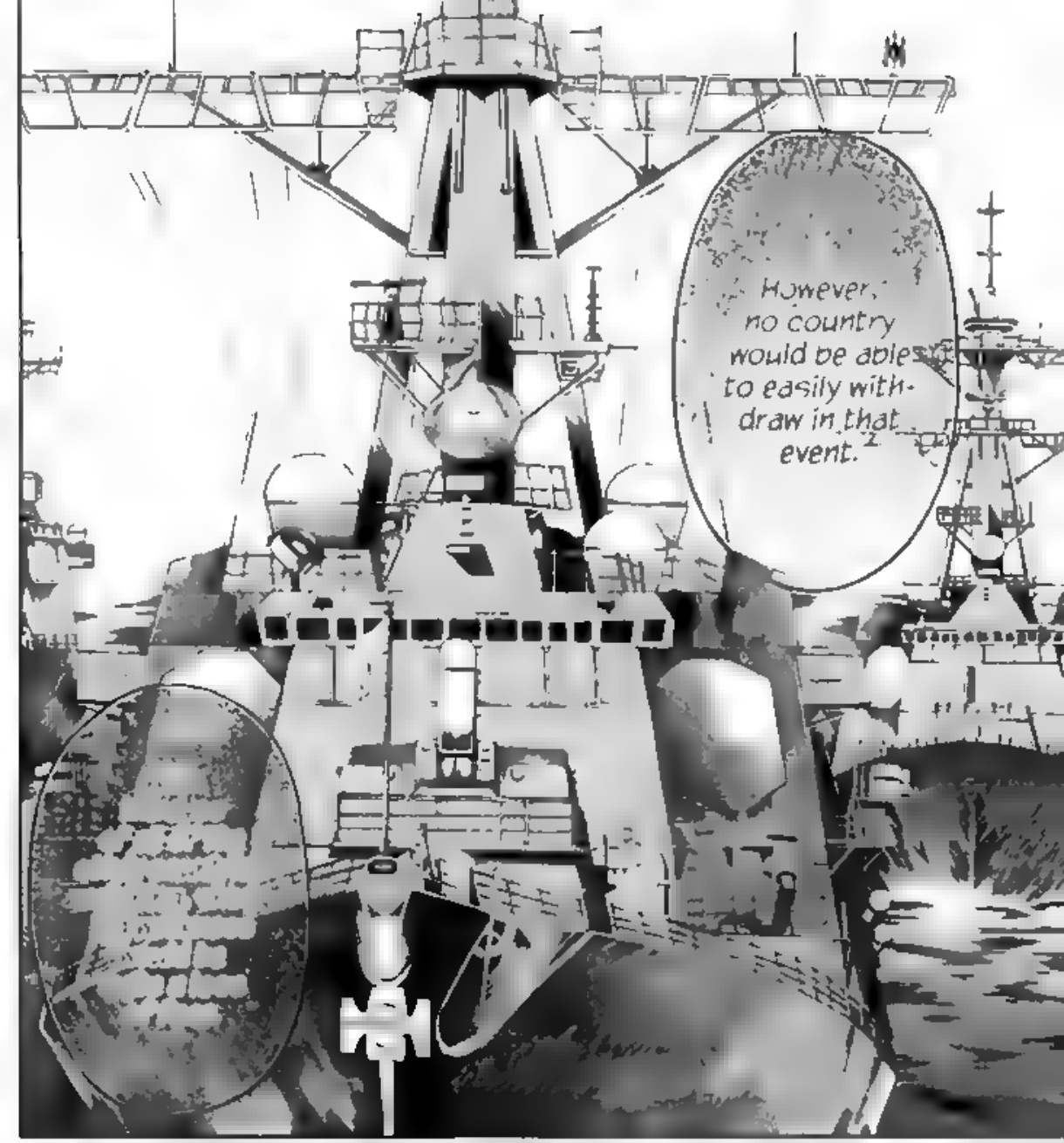
成田国際空港
Narita Airport Terminal 1


One week later

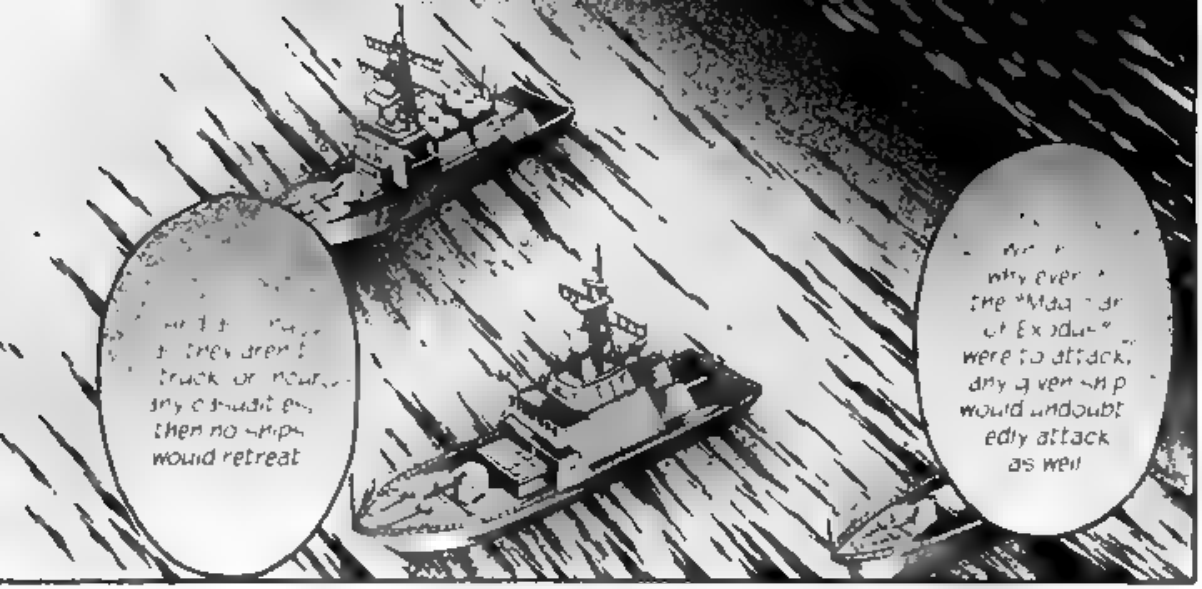
are large, but this was a fleet hastily gathered from twenty countries. The command structure must be quite ambiguou
Exodus

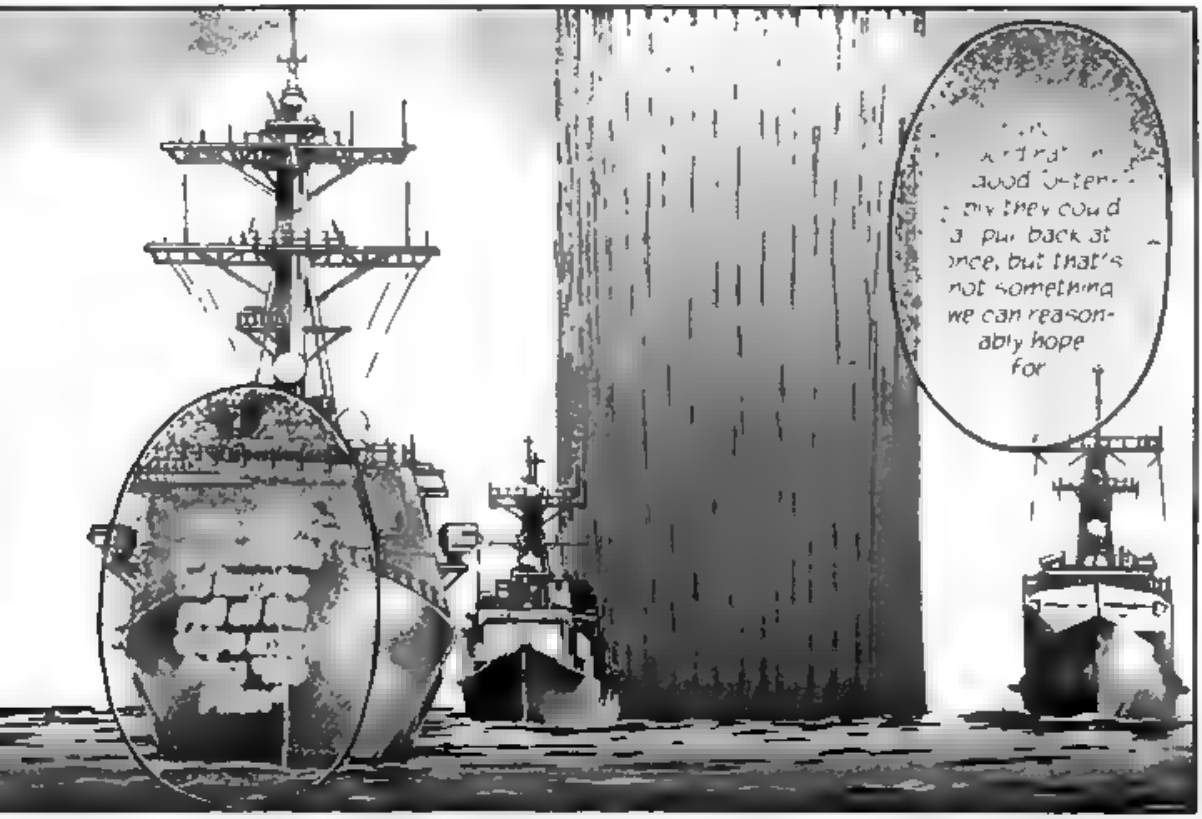


A hundred ships are arrayed around "the Pillar."

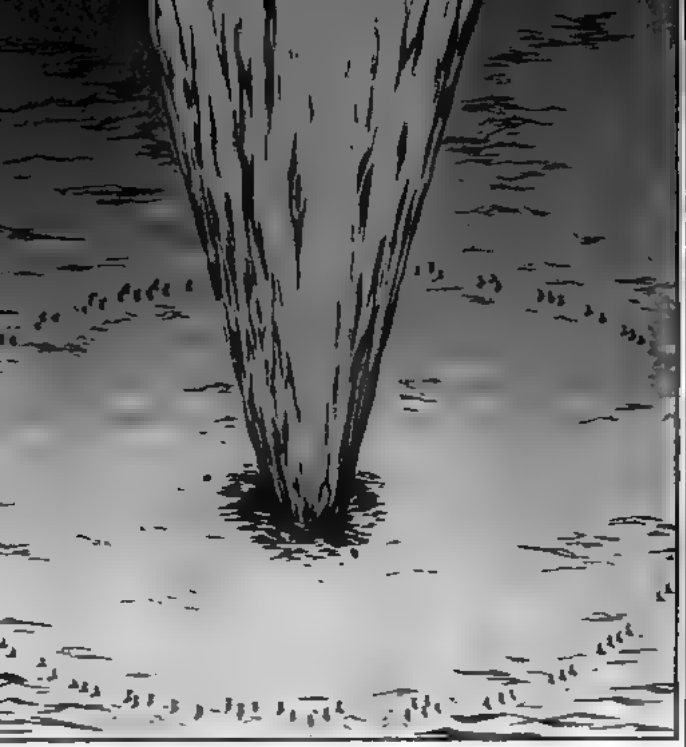

However, no country would be able to easily withdraw in that event.

to abandon to order to protect the Pact while the others had yet to pull back.

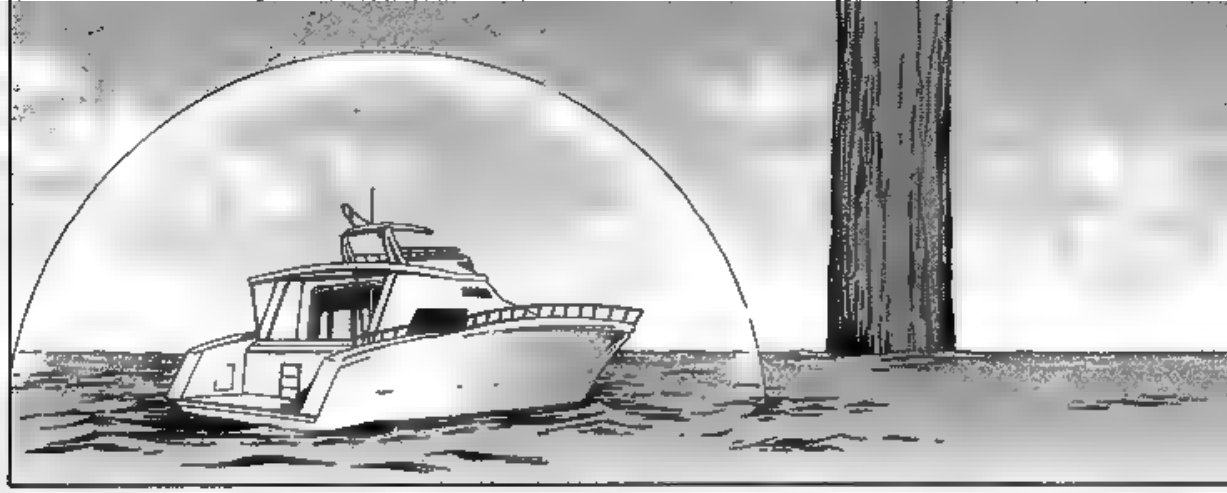

...if they aren't struck or mour... any casualties, then no ships would retreat
...why ever the "Mag...ar of Exodus" were to attack, any given ship would undoubtedly attack as well

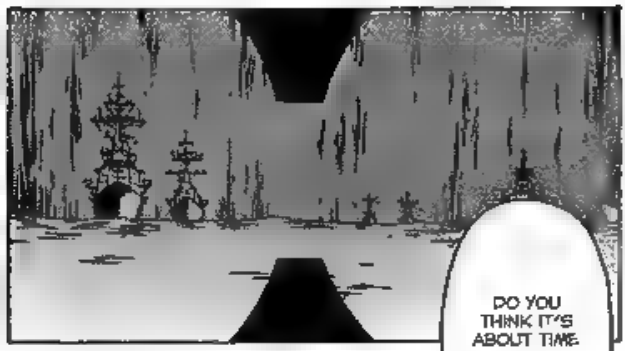

...a good opportunity they could ...pur back at once, but that's not something we can reasonably hope for

...Of course, the surveillance ships near the Pr... have to be recalled far away as well
...However, warship... have ship..., not allowing for any casualties.



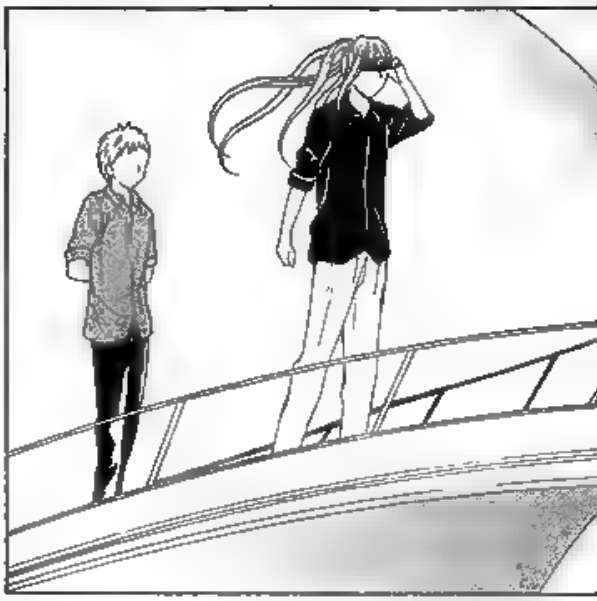
And on top of that "the Pillar" itself needs to be destroyed!





DO YOU THINK IT'S ABOUT TIME, HANEMURA ...

FINISHED CARRYING THOSE TWO?



I guess the first stage of the plan has been cleared.

SO FAR, THINGS SEEM TO BE GOING WELL...

ACCORDING TO THE PLAN.

THEY SHOULD HAVE MOVED ONTO THE NEXT STEP ALREADY

HERE...
30-PLUS KILOMETERS AWAY FROM "THE PILLAR"...
AND MORE THAN 10 KILOMETERS AWAY FROM THE RING OF SHIPS. ..THIS IS WHERE WE'LL MAKE OUR MOVE.
FROM THERE THE FIRST THING WE NEED TO DO. .
IS DO SOMETHING ABOUT THE SURVEY SHIPS THAT ARE CLOSEST TO "THE PILLAR."
HANEMURA, BEFORE THE OFFICIAL ATTACK BEGINS...
TAKE THREE OF OUR MEMBERS UNDERWATER AND CARRY ONE ALONG-SIDE EACH OF THE SURVEY SHIPS.
REMEMBER WHEN YOU WERE FIGHTING AGAINST THE "DANCING PRINCESS" UNDERWATER BEFORE?
WITHOUT GETTING CAUGHT BY THE SHIPS' RADAR.
YOU CAN MOVE THOSE PEOPLE ALONG AT SUPER SPEED, RIGHT?

AS FOR THE THREE TO TAKE TO THE SURVEY SHIPS.
LET'S SEE. .
THEN THERE WON'T BE A PROB-LEM.
YEAH.
LAST TIME, I COULD MOVE WITHOUT EVEN THINKING ABOUT BREATHING, SO IT SHOULD BE EASY
THAT GUY, NATSU-MURA.
YOU AND. .
YOU...
EVEN IF YOU CAN'T USE MAGIC WITH DIVING GEAR.
YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO MANAGE.
ONCE HANEMURA HAS CARRIED YOU TO THE SURVEY SHIPS.. UNTIL THE NAVAL BATTLE BEGINS IN EARNEST. .
JUST STAY BY THE SHIPS WITHOUT BEING SEEN, AND WAIT.
LIBERALIST

ALL THREE OF YOU BOARD THE RESPECTIVE SURVEY SHIPS AND TAKE CONTROL.
YOU'LL NEED TO GET THEM AWAY FROM THE "TREE OF GENESIS."

THEN. .
ONCE HANEMURA'S GROUP STARTS THE FIGHT .

EACH OF YOU THREE SHOULD BE CONFIDENT IN YOUR ABILITIES.
EVEN IF YOU CAN'T USE MAGIC YOU CAN DO IT, RIGHT?
67

THE SURVEY SHIPS HAVE NEITHER WEAPONS OR SOLDIERS, RIGHT?

?..
WEL... DEPENDING ON THE MEANS, OF COURSE.

AND IF WE BRING ALONG EQUIPMENT TO JAM THEIR COMMUNICA-TIONS WITH THE OUT-SIDE.
THEN THINGS WILL BE EVEN EASIER.

IF AN INTRUDER SUDDENLY APPEARS ON A SHIP THAT'S SUPPOSED TO BE SAFE.
THEN THEY WOULD NATURALLY PANIC AND HAVE NO MEANS OF PROPER RESPONSE, RIGHT?

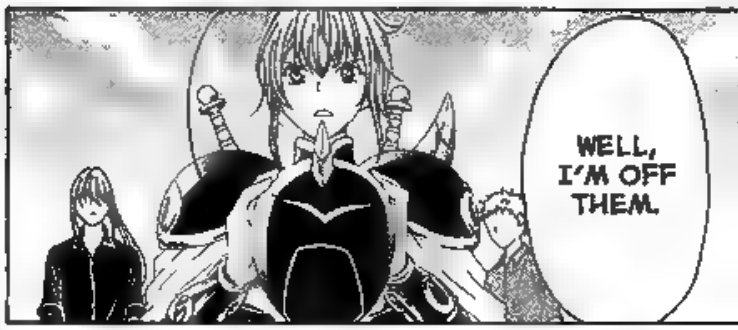
GET THEM AWAY FROM THE "TREE OF GENESIS" WITHOUT PUTTING UP ANY RESISTANCE.
OUR AIM WILL OBVIOUSLY BE TO...
ONCE THE SHIPS FINALLY ENGAGE THE "MAGICIAN OF EXODUS" IN BATTLE.
KUSARIBE MAGIC CAN NOT BE USED IN THE VICINITY OF THE SHIPS.
WE'RE RESTRICTED IN ATTACKING THE SHIPS IN THE FIRST PLACE.
HOW ARE WE GOING TO HANDLE THE NAVAL BATTLE ITSELF?
SO, THAT TAKES CARE OF THE SURVEY SHIPS.
IF HANEMURA DOESN'T CONSERVE HIS POWER, THINGS WILL GET DIFFICULT WHEN IT TRULY COUNTS.
IT WON'T DO TO MAKE HIM EXPEND TOO MUCH OF HIS POWER, EITHER.
EVEN IF HANEMURA WERE TO MOVE OUT BEFORE PROPERLY ENGAGING "THE PILLAR"

CONTINUOUSLY DODGING ENEMY ATTACKS, WITHOUT RETURNING FIRE OURSELVES...
WILL TAKE QUITE A TOLL, AS WELL.
THAT'S WHY, HAKAZE.
ニヤリ
WE'LL HAVE YOU GO OUT TO BATTLE, AS THE "MAGICIAN OF EXODUS."

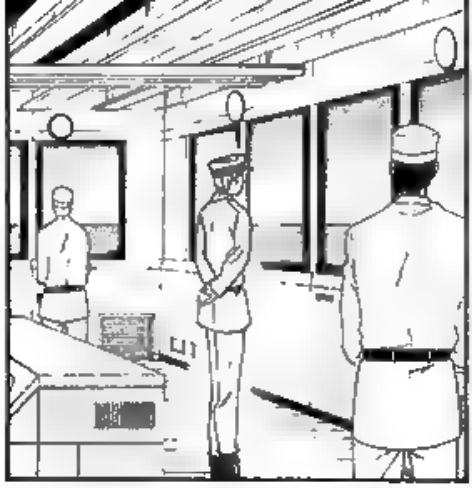
I THINK IT'S ABOUT TIME FOR ME TO HEAD OUT.

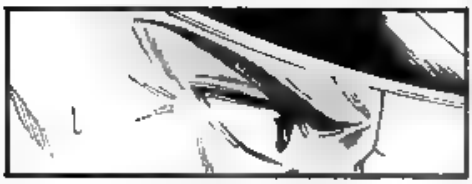
THAT DOESN'T SEEM LIKE A COMPLIMENT?
SOMEHOW.
IT LOOKS GOOD ON YOU.
BE VERY SURE TO PAY ATTENTION TO YOUR POSITION.
IF YOU GET ANY CLOSER, IT WILL LOSE EFFECT.
KUSARIBE MAGIC CAN ONLY BE USED AT MOST 10 TO FIVE KILOMETERS FROM HERE.
ONCE THE BATTLE BEGINS, I WON'T HAVE THE LUXURY OF PAYING ATTENTION TO THINGS AROUND ME.
SAME GOES FOR YOU.
WE WON'T BE ABLE TO COME SAVE YOU.
EVEN IF YOU LOSE YOUR MAGIC AND FA... INTO THE SEA...

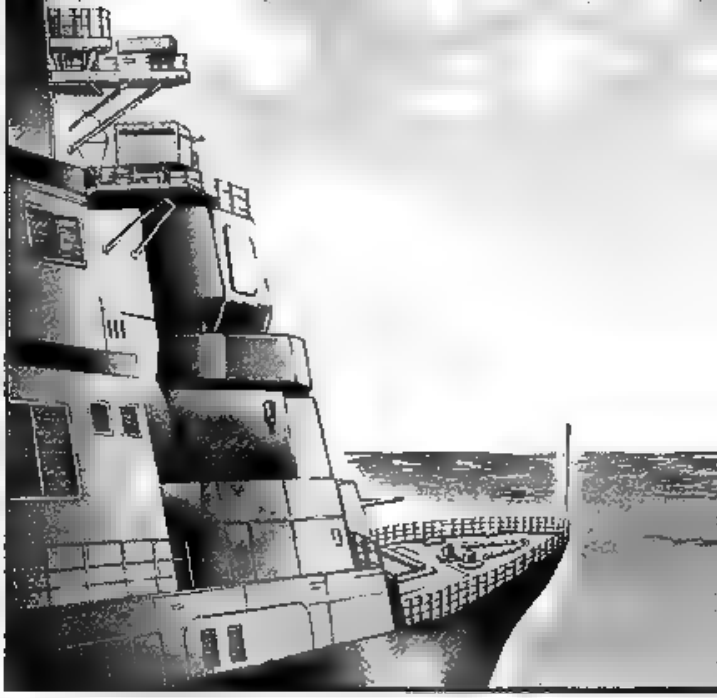
I DON'T KNOW HOW THINGS MIGHT PLAY OUT
WE'LL JUST HAVE TO PRAY THAT MAHIRO'S READINGS ARE COR-RECT.

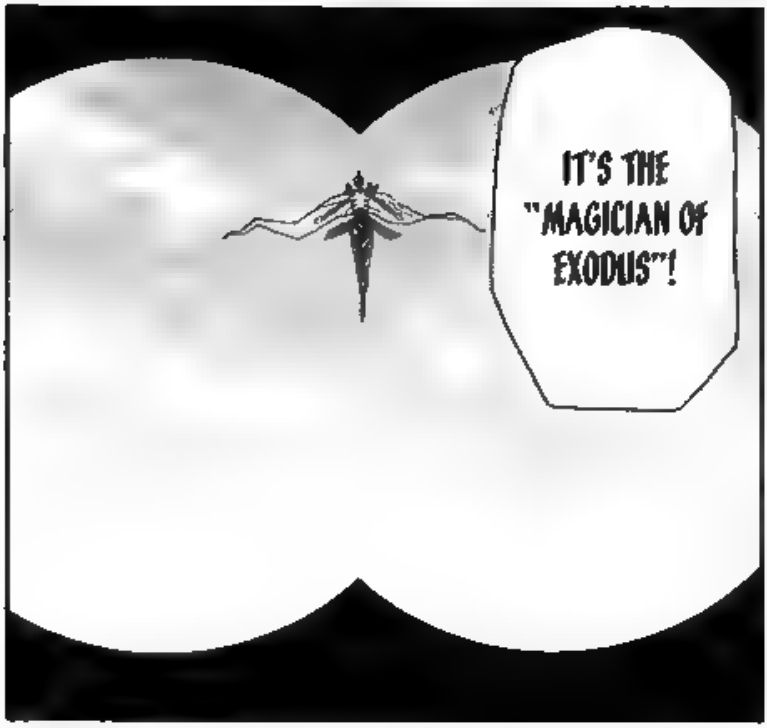

WELL, I'M OFF THEM.

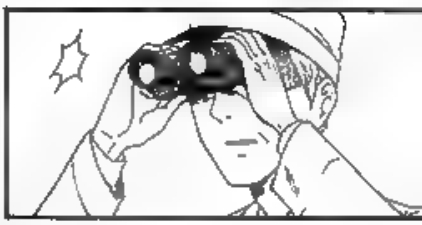
ONE HUNDRED WARSHIPS ...
TIME FOR ME TO HAVE SOME FUN.





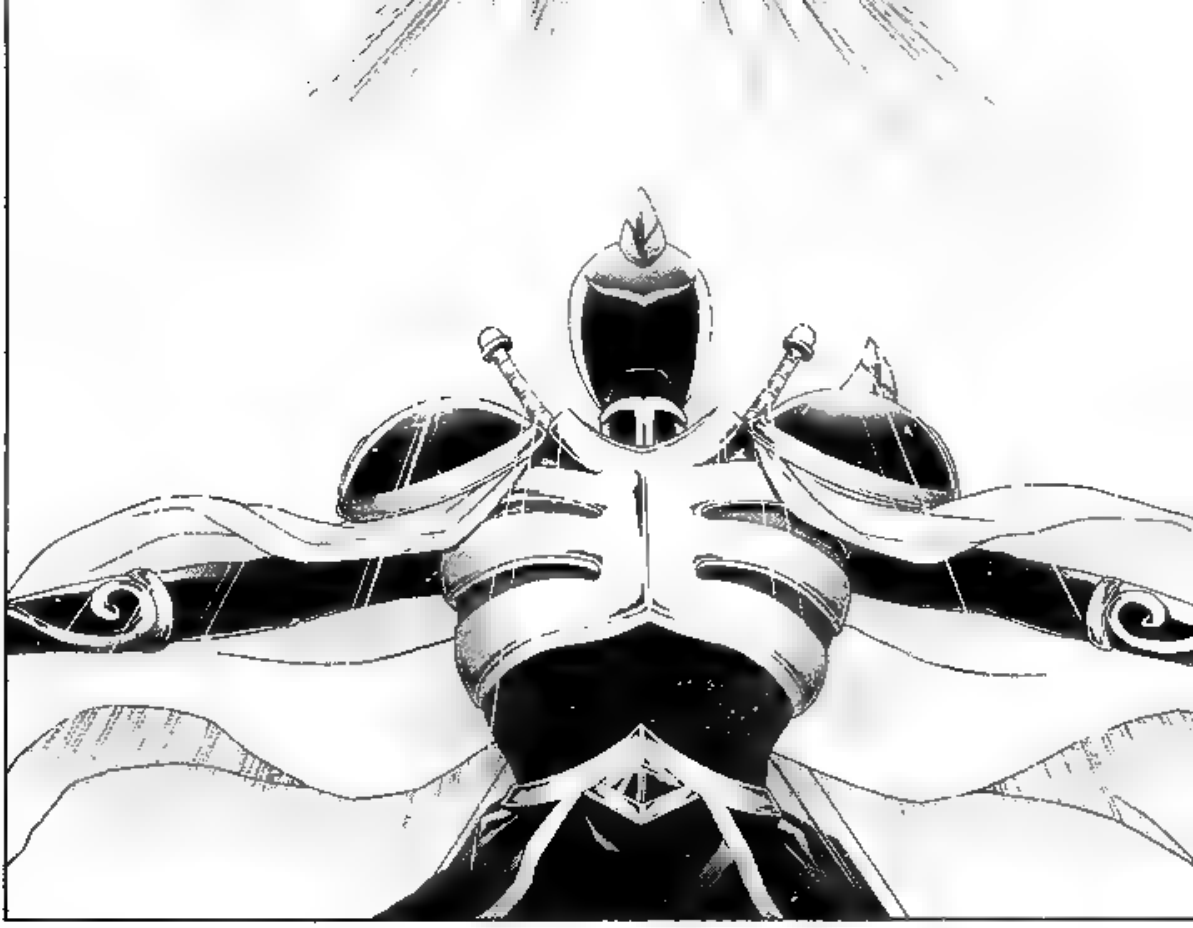


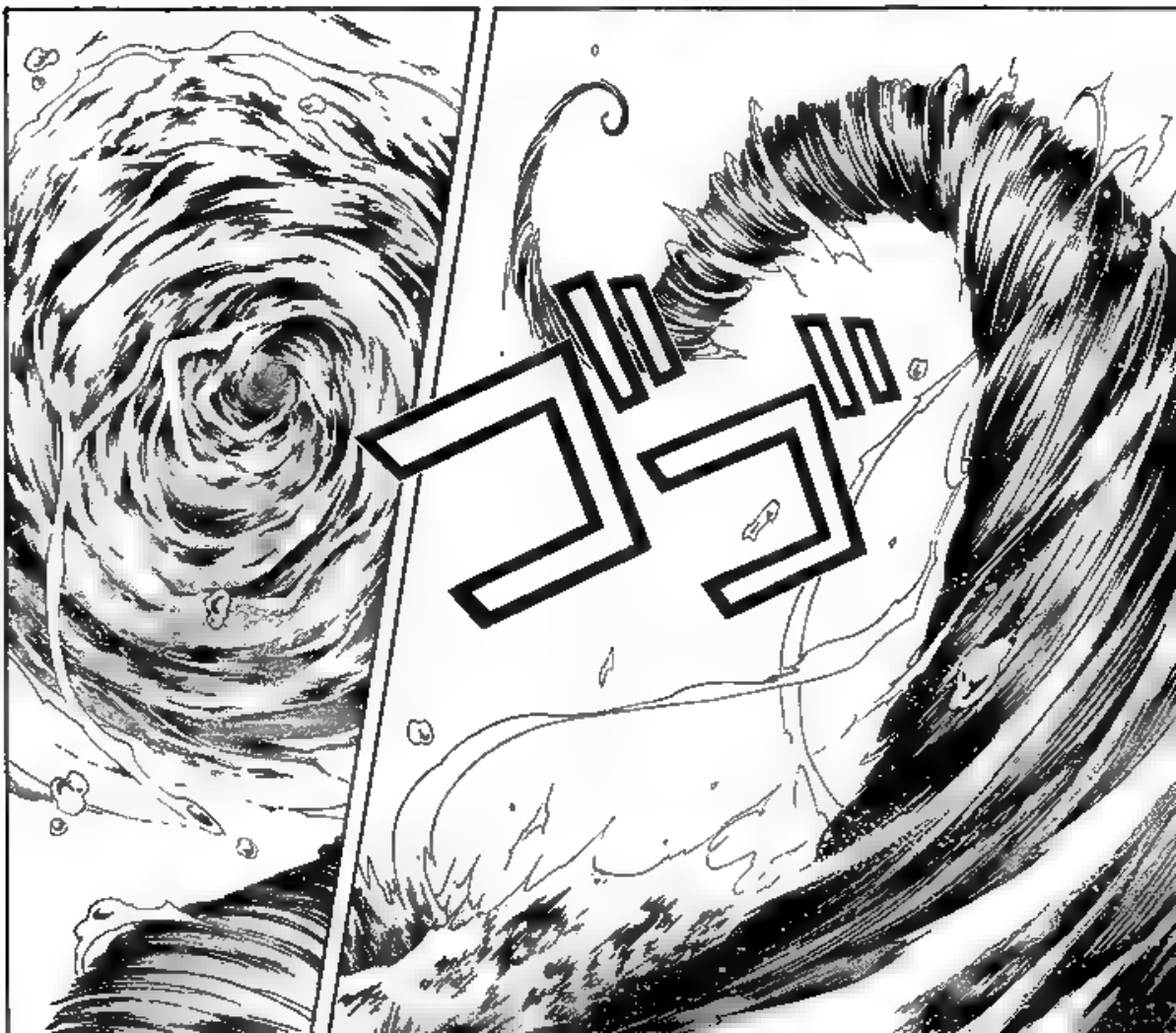

IT'S THE "MAGICIAN OF EXODUS"!



UP IN THE AIR AHEAD!

THE MAGICIAN HAS STOPPED IN MID AIR!
THE DISTANCE IS ABOUT 4 KILOMETERS!
WHAT DID YOU SAY!?
Now what...?
But...

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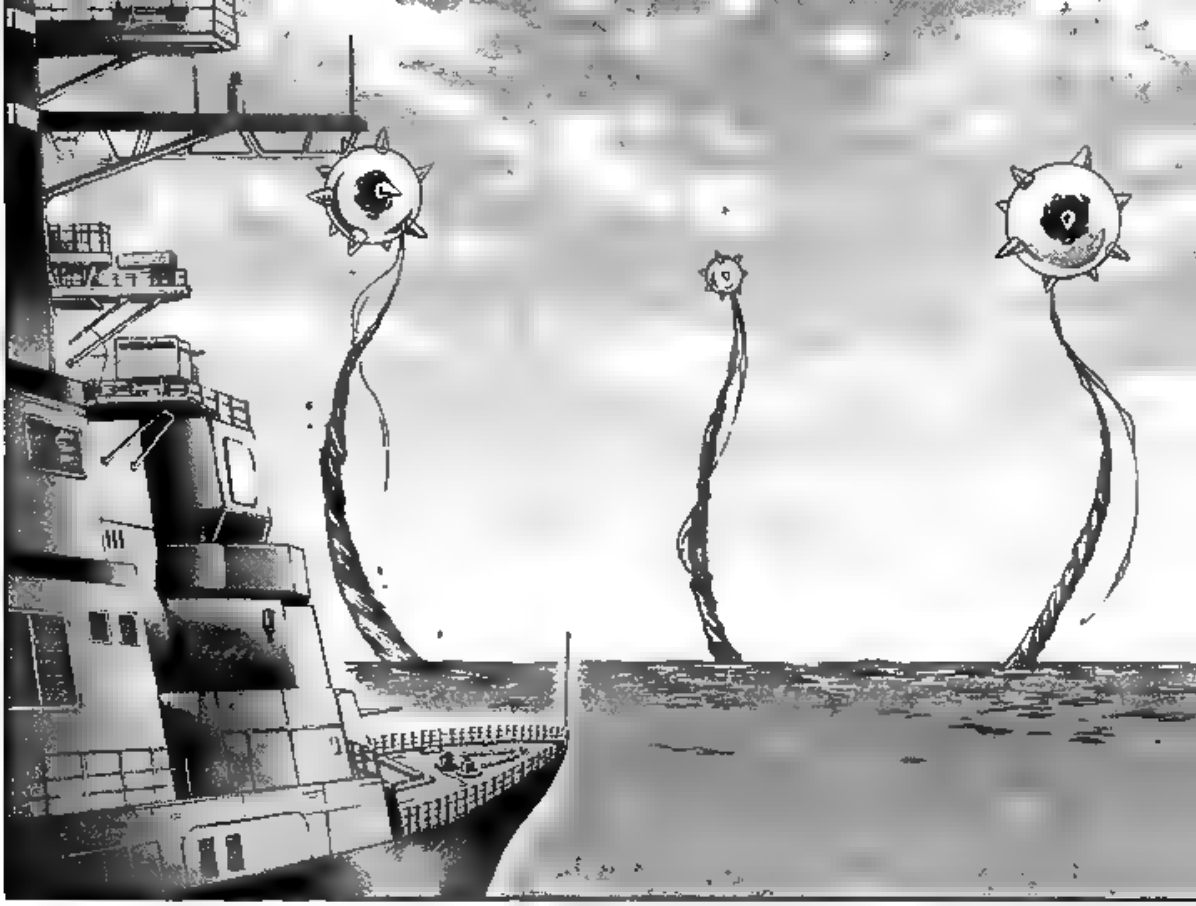
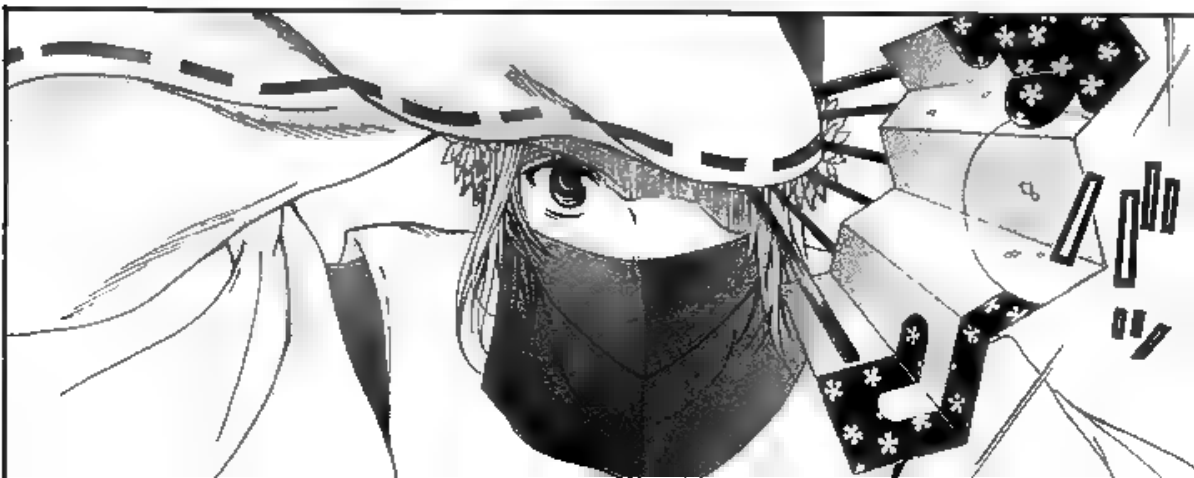


IF WE GET HIT BY SOMETHING THAT SIZE WE'LL SINK!
THIS IS BAD!

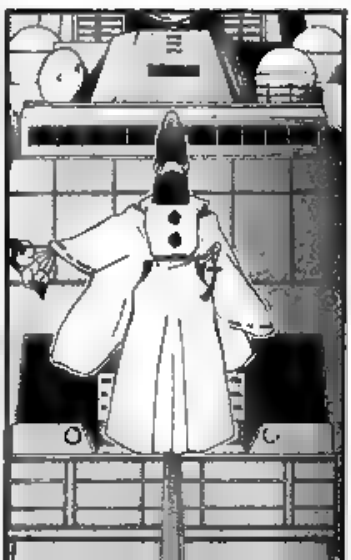
INTERCEPT IT!
SHOOT IT DOWN!
NO! SHOOTING IT DOWN IS BAD AS WELL!
WHAT DO YOU THINK WOULD HAPPEN IF THAT VOLUME OF WATER FALLS NEAR US?
THE IMPACT FROM THE FALL WILL CREATE A MASSIVE WAVE AND TAKE US OUT!
DON'T BE RIDIC-ULOUS!
ARE YOU TELLING ME THAT DOZENS OF SHIPS WOULD BE TAKEN OUT BY SOMETHING LIKE THAT?

THAT'S...

THE 'DANCING PRINCESS'!

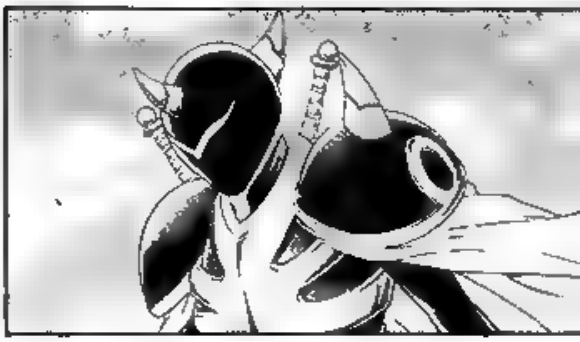


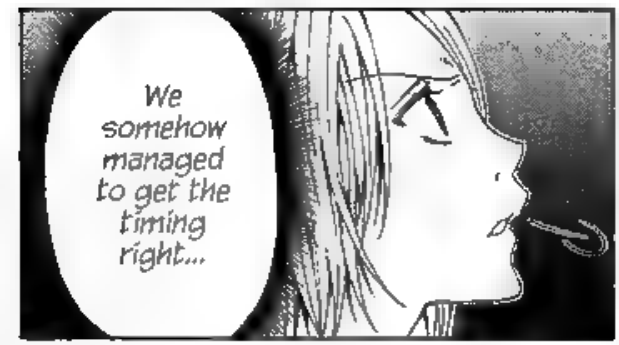
EVEN AFTER BRINGING THOSE DOWN, THE SEA IS AS CALM AS EVER...

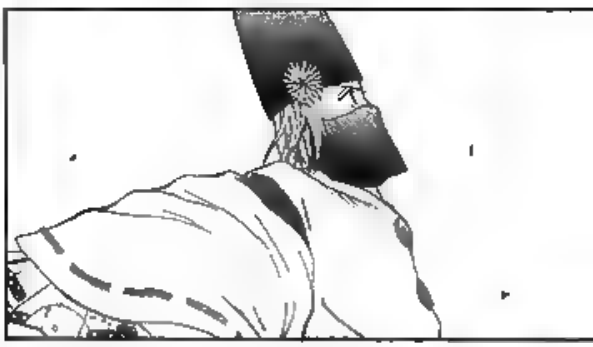


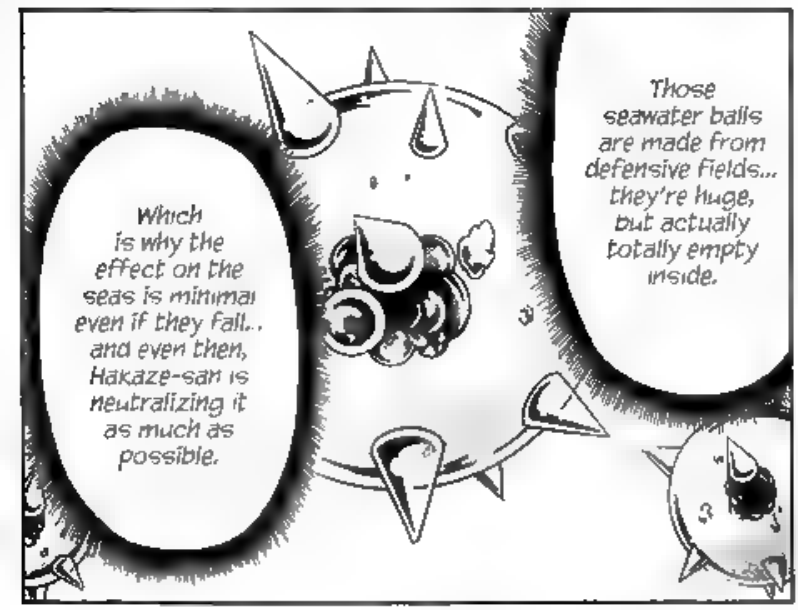
OR WAS MOST OF THE WATER SIMPLY ANNIHILATED IN MID-AIR?
DID THE 'DANCING PRINCESS' HOLD IT DOWN?

I wonder...
Hyrem... I handled it - appearance well?




We somehow managed to get the timing right...



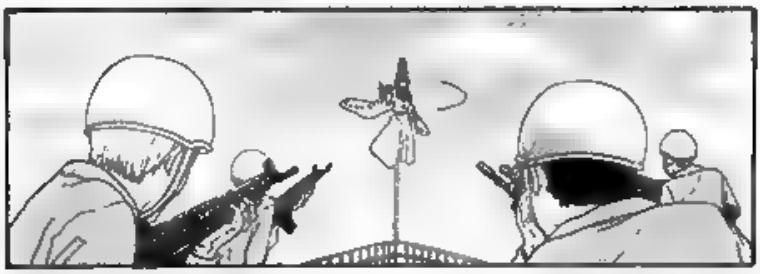

Those seawater balls are made from defensive fields... they're huge, but actually totally empty inside.
Which is why the effect on the seas is minimal even if they fall... and even then, Hakaze-san is neutralizing it as much as possible.

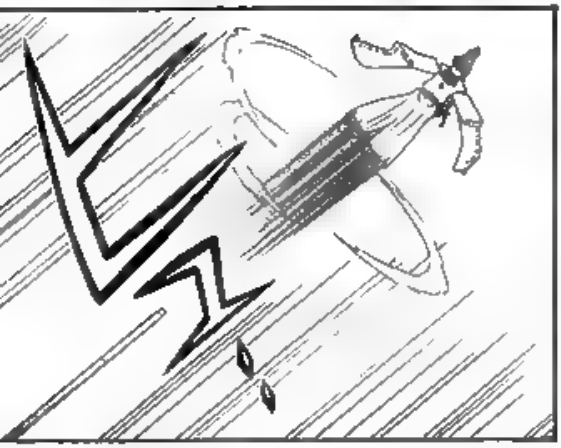
But I have to say, Hakaze's magic control is amazing.

But this is all part of the plan.
The fight has only begun!

Plus, the reason that the balls shatter is simply because they're falling into the area where Kusaribe magic is ineffective
So I haven't really done anything..

カシャ
カシャ





COVER ME.

ALL SHIPS ATTACK!
OUR AIM IS THE 'MAGICIAN OF EXODUS'!
DON'T GIVE HIM ANY TIME TO DO ANYTHING THIS TIME!
カイイイイン

This is the hard part.

Seriously...
Makiro's making me do crazy things!

THE PUBLIC RECOGNIZES THE BLACK COSTUME...
AS THE 'MAGICIAN OF EXODUS'.

I'M GOING TO BE APPEARING AS THE 'MAGICIAN OF EXODUS'?

FROM A POINT WHERE YOU CAN USE KUSARIBE MAGIC.
ATTACK THE WARSHIPS IN A VISIBLE WAY.

AND WHILE YOU ARE IN THAT FORM.

SO IF YOU WEAR THAT AND APPEAR...
THEN YOU BECOME THE "MAGICIAN OF EXODUS."

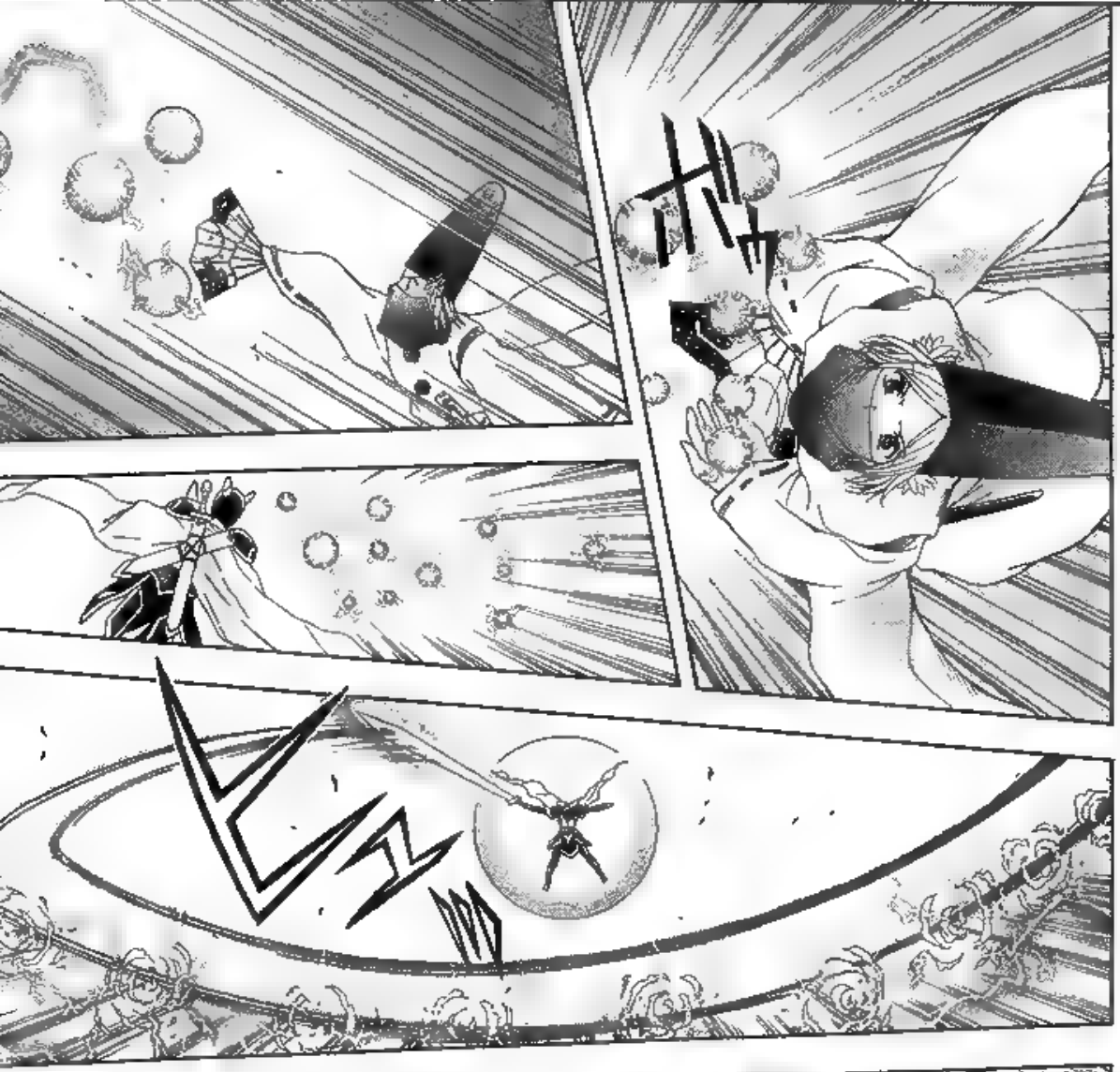
YOU WILL NEED TO APPEAR AT THE RIGHT TIME WEARING THAT COSTUME...
AND DEFLECT THE ATTACK.

HANEMURA...
YOU WILL COME OUT AS THE 'DANCING PRINCESS'

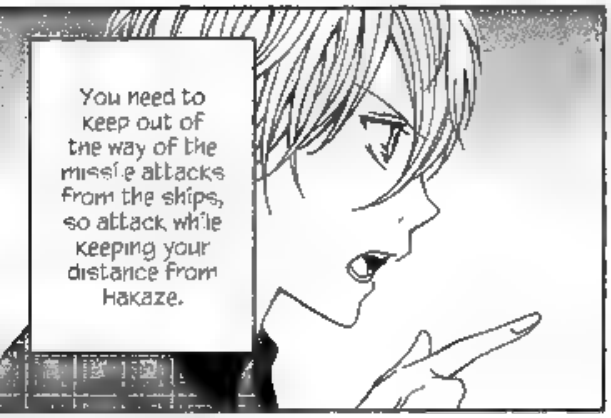
HOWEVER, IN DOING SO, THE "DANCING PRINCESS"
WILL GIVE THE IMPRESSION THAT SHE INTENDS TO PROTECT "THE PILLAR."
IN REALITY, HAKAZE'S MAGIC WILL BECOME INEFFECTIVE A FAIR DISTANCE AWAY
SO, IN THE END, IT'S REALLY JUST PRETENDING TO DEFLECT HER ATTACKS.
THIS WAY, THERE WILL BE A HIGH LIKELIHOOD THAT THE SHIP CREWS WILL ATTACK HAKAZE WITHOUT ANY QUALMS.
AND ORDER THEM TO ATTACK HAKAZE, WHO IS PLAYING "MAGICIAN OF EXODUS."
AT THAT POINT YOU'LL NEED TO GET THE SHIP CREWS TO BACK YOU UP.
Then they will have no need to fear the magic of the "Magician of Exodus".
Because if the 'Dancing Princess' is protecting them...
Hakaze will dodge those attacks while flying.

Follow the edge of their circle formation.
To make it easier for all the warships surrounding the Pillar to join in the attack against you...
You need to draw the fire of as many ships as possible, and lure them towards you.
So being limited to short-range missiles and artillery, they will naturally want to get closer
Their target will be small and moving around at a high speed.
Once they enter an area where Kusaribe magic is effective, the battle is ours.
Drag them out.

If their attention is diverted from the Pillar behind them, that's good enough.
Even if they're not all lured away...
I NEED TO GET OUT THERE TOO.
THE SHIPS HAVE STARTED TO BE DRAWN AWAY.



Haremura...

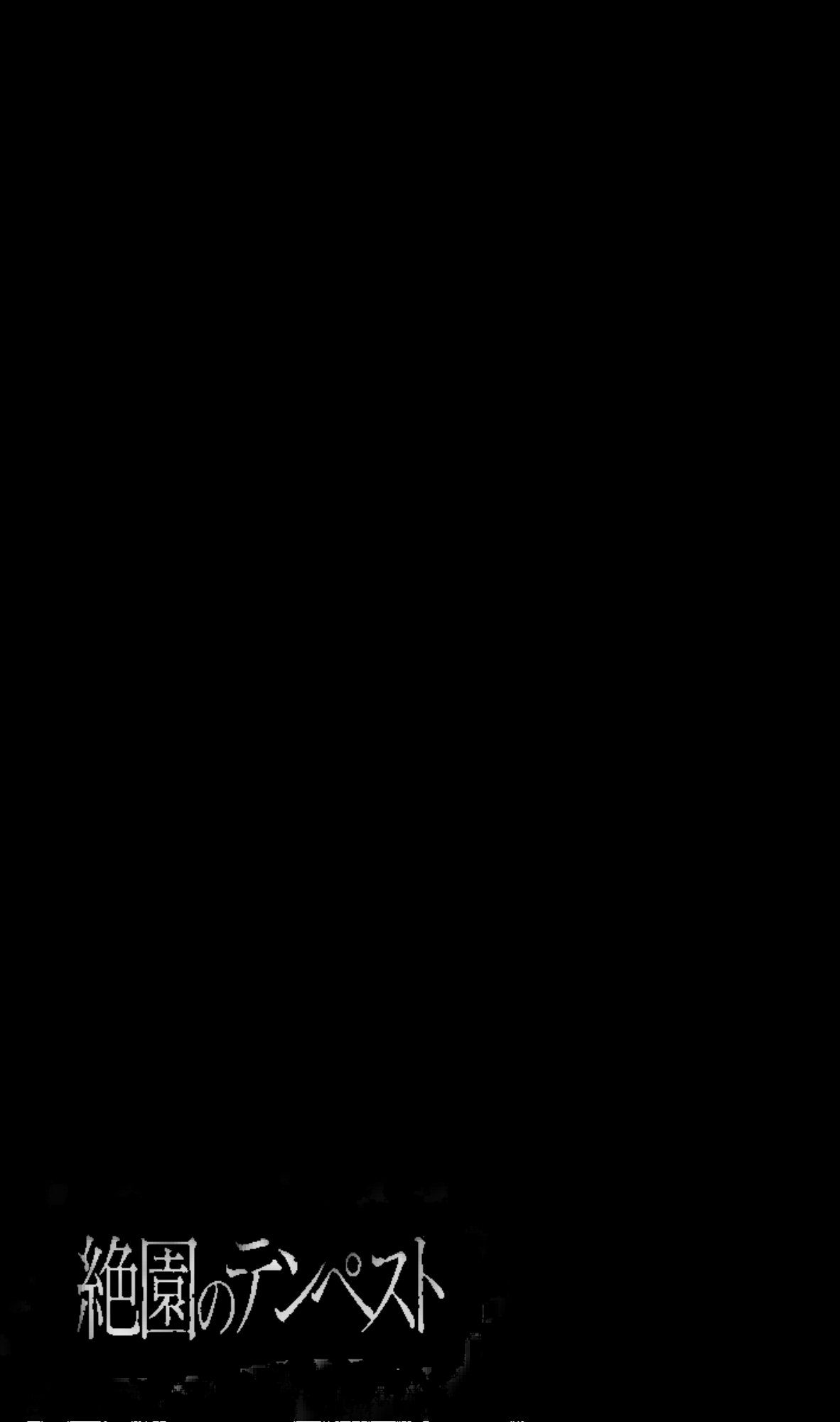

You need to keep out of the way of the missile attacks from the ships, so attack while keeping your distance from Hakaze.

You'll need to fly while deflecting attacks in sync with Hakaze, but you need to be careful.

You also need to attack while giving the impression that you're preventing Hakaze from getting close to the ships.
You have to keep them from questioning how come the "Magician of Exodus" isn't getting closer to the ships.
We need to make the people on the warships think that you are fighting each other seriously
Hakaze for her part will act like she's getting hard pressed by the "Dancing Princess," and gradually move away from "the Pillar."
In order to move the ships away, even a little bit.

Make sure you do a good job of that.
At this point you two will have swapped roles. Hakaze, you'll use magic like the "Magician of Exodus"...
And Hanemura will use magic like the "Dancing Princess."
You'll never run out of offerings to use!
All that gunfire will be noisy, but...

She can't continue like this forever...
But even if it's Hakaze...
Amazing!
The survey ships haven't pulled back yet?!


絶園のテンペスト

THE CIVILIZATION BLASTER

ZETSUEN NO TEMPEST

by SHIRODAIRA Kyou
and SAIZAKI Ren

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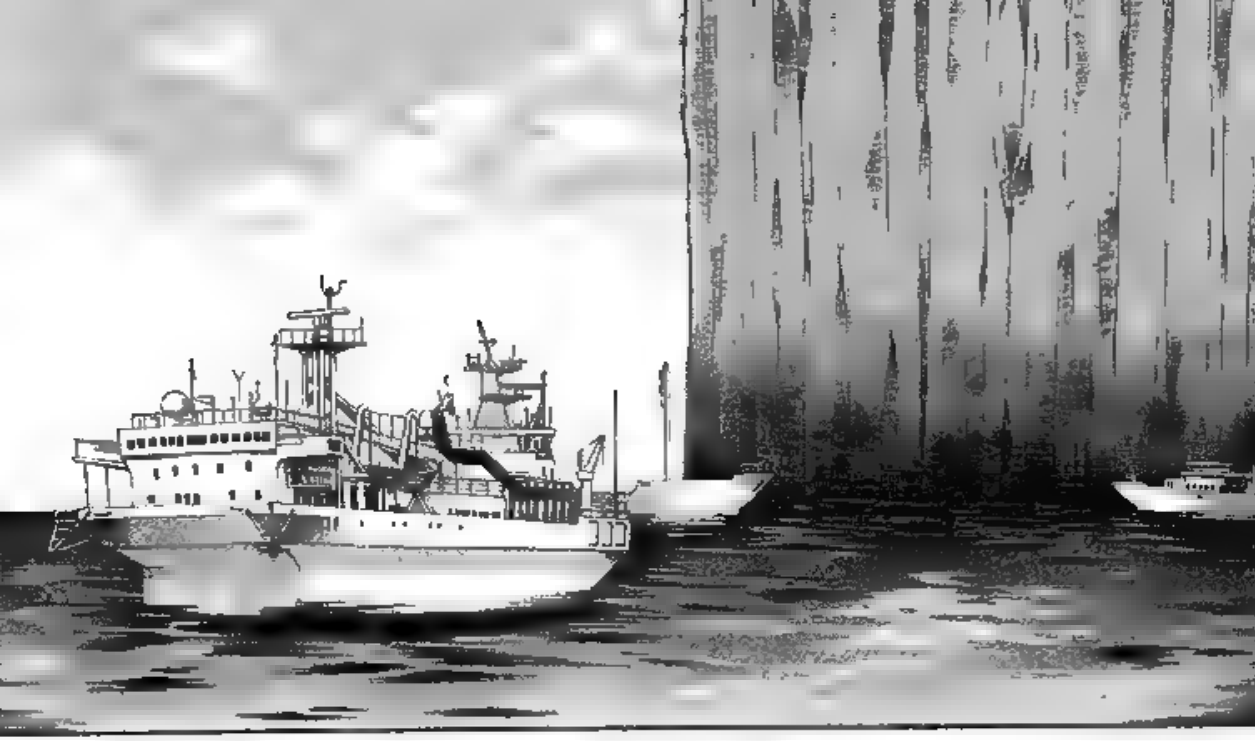
Chapter 42 - A Bit Overly Mythical

THE CIVILIZATION BLASTER



COMMU-
NICATIONS
ARE DOWN!?
NOTHING AT
ALL FROM THE
SURVEY SHIPS!
IT'S LIKE MESS-
AGES FROM THE
SHIPS ARE.

WHAT'S
HAPPEN-
ING!

!?

WHAT
SHOULD
WE DO,
THEN!?
IT SEEMS
THAT THE
"MAGICIAN
OF EXODUS"
REALLY IS
ATTACKING!

SILENCE!
LISTEN TO ME, QUIETLY, AND DON'T MOVE!
AN INTRU-DER!?
A...
KICK

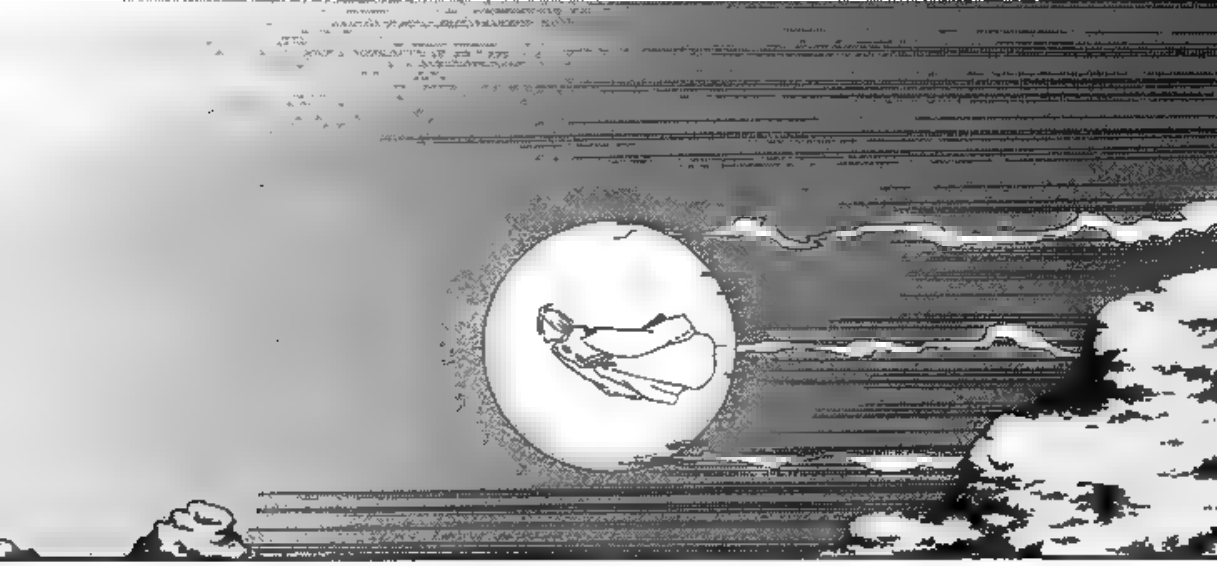
I'VE ATTACHED EXPLOSIVES TO THE BOTTOM OF THE SHIP, SO...
IF I PRESS THIS, WE'LL DEFINITELY SINK.
NOTHING WILL HAPPEN TO YOU, IF YOU DO AS I SAY.
ス。。
HA!
I HAVE JUST ONE DEMAND.
THAT YOU GET AS FAR AWAY FROM "THE PILLAR" AS YOU CAN, AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE.

I WON'T ASK FOR ANYTHING BEYOND PULLING AWAY FROM "THE PILLAR."
IT'S NOT EXACTLY SAFE HERE ANYWAY, RIGHT?
BESIDES...

SWAP PLACES!
THERE'S A GOOD CHANCE COMING UP!
YES!

The rest is up to you!
Tetsuma-san!

Within Ra'smans received from the Princess, the level of the magic that I can use is substantially increased, but .
Much more difficult than thought
How long can I hold out as Hanemura's replacement?
The substitution should not have been noticed, but..



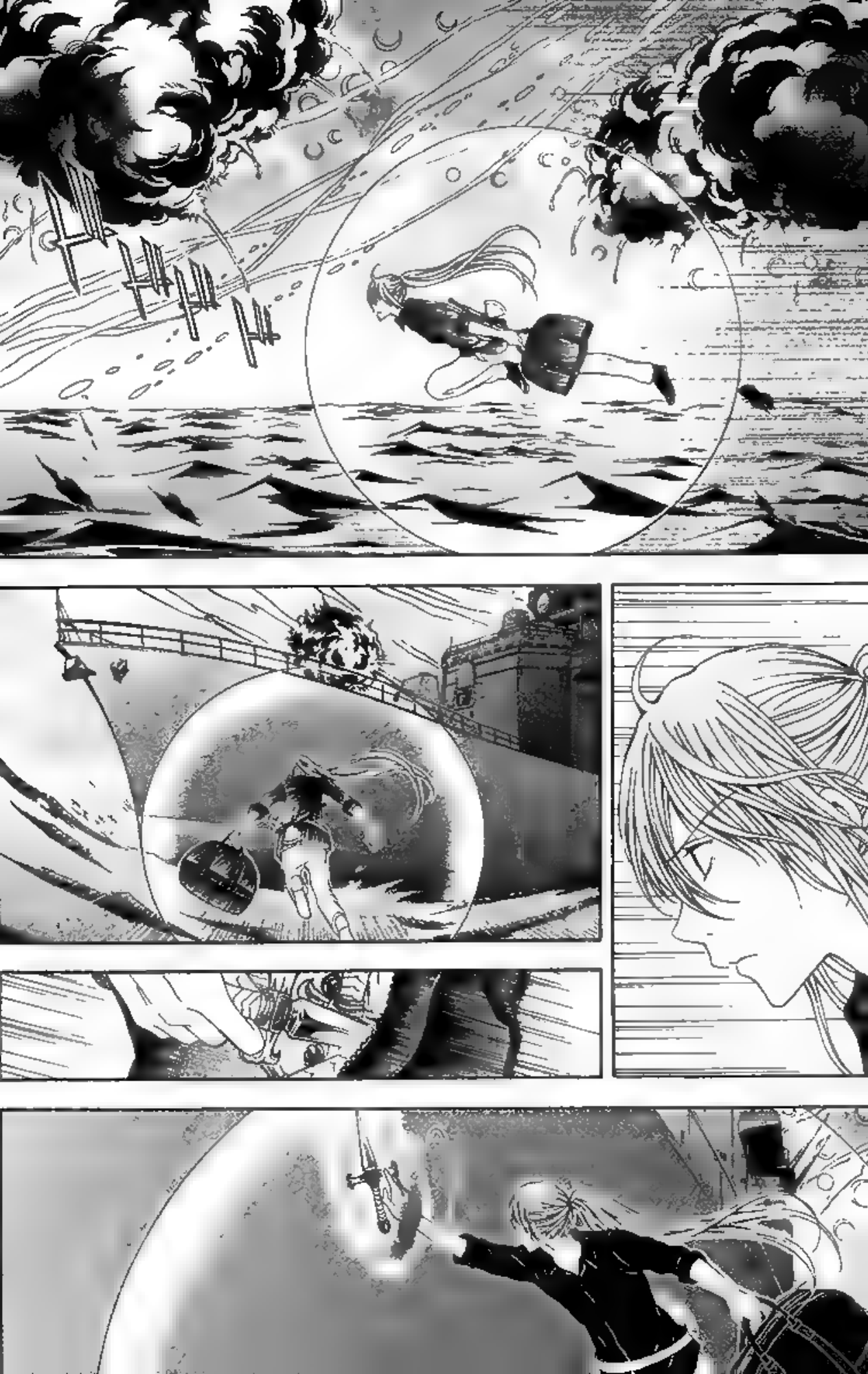
A KUSARIBE MAGICIAN WITH ROUGHLY THE SAME BUILD WILL BE WEARING THE SAME "DANC NG PRINCESS" OUTFIT AND WAITING IN THE OCEAN.
YOU'LL PRETEND TO FALL IN THE OCEAN, AND SWITCH PLACES THEN.

ONCE THE ATTACK STARTS IN EARNEST AND THE SURVEY SHIPS' RETREAT IS IN PROGRESS. .

YOU'LL SWAP THE "DANCING PRINCESS" ROLE WITH SOMEONE ELSE.
HANEMURA.

THE SURVEY SHIPS WILL BE PULLING AWAY BY THAT TIME, AS WELL.
YOU'LL HEAD FOR "THE PILLAR" UNDERWATER, WHILE THE OTHER "DANCING PRINCESS" AND HAKAZE CONTINUE TO DRAW FIRE.
Then you'll fly up alongside "the Pillar"...
And it's one on one between you and "the Pillar."

He was just going on and on...
But things turned out just like mahiro-kun said.
AT THIS POINT, NO MATTER WHAT'S GOING ON WITH "THE PILLAR" BEHIND THEM.
MOST OF THE SHIPS WON'T BE ABLE TO MOUNT A RESPONSE VERY QUICKLY
THE "MAGICIAN OF EXODUS" IS FLYING AROUND IN FRONT OF THEM, AND "THE PILLAR" ITSELF WILL HAVE PROBABLY STARTED SOME UNUSUAL ACTIVITY.
IT WILL BE QUITE DIFFICULT TO TAKE EFFECTIVE COUNTERMEASURES.
PLUS, IF THE SHIPS ENTER THE SEA WHERE KUSARIBE MAGIC IS EFFECTIVE...
THEY'LL BE CAUGHT WITH MAGIC.
EVEN IF "THE PILLAR" GOES ON A RAMPAGE, WE'LL STILL BE ABLE TO PROTECT THE SHIPS.



I'VE HIDDEN MYSELF WITH MAGIC, BUT.
IF I GET DISCOVERED, THEN I CERTAINLY WON'T LAST VERY LONG.
THERE ARE STILL SHIPS THAT HAVEN'T ENTERED THE PART OF THE OCEAN WHERE KUSARIBE MAGIC IS EFFECTIVE.
CAN THEY BE PROTECTED IN TIME?

THIS WAY YOU CAN CONSERVE YOUR STRENGTH.
AND THE STAGE IS SET WHERE YOU CAN CONCENTRATE ON DESTROYING "THE PILLAR."
HANEMURA.
OF COURSE, THERE'S NO GUARANTEE ALL THE SHIPS WILL MOVE AS WE WANT THEM TO.
THERE MIGHT BE OTHERS THAT STAY WHERE KUSARIBE MAGIC IS INEFFECTIVE AND GET SUNK BY THE PILLAR
THERE MIGHT BE SHIPS THAT DISCOVER YOU..
ドドド

PRINCESS!
GAH...
THERE'S NO PROBLEM.
KEEP GOING WITH YOUR PART!

They wouldn't move the ship carelessly
There are limits to [illegible] diversion.

THIS IS THE BEST PLAN.
HOWEVER...
AND AS LONG AS YOUR FIGHTING HERE ISN'T DISCOVERED, EVEN IF "THE PILLAR" IS DESTROYED...
THEY WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO PROVE THAT THE "MAGICIAN OF EXODUS" DID IT
IT WOULDN'T BE UNREASONABLE TO CONCLUDE. .
THAT THE "TREE OF GENESIS" MADE A MOVE OF ITS OWN ACCORD AND DECIDED TO DISAPPEAR.
AFTER ALL, THE "MAGICIAN OF EXODUS" THAT EVERYONE KNOWS WILL BE HELD UP BY THE SHIPS AND THE "DANCING PRINCESS."
IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO THINK HE COULD DO ANYTHING ELSE.

IT SHOULDN'T TURN OUT BADLY THAT WAY.
WELL, IN ANY CASE.
THE ANIMOSITY DIRECTED TOWARD "EXODUS" WILL BE TEMPERED.
THIS WAY, AFTER THE "TREE OF GENESIS" IS DEFEATED. .
NOW THEN...
THEREFORE, THIS IS THE BEST PLAN OF ACTION.
THIS IS THE EXTENT OF WHAT I CAN PLAN.
DEPENDS ON WHAT YOU, AS THE REAL "MAGICIAN OF EXODUS," ARE ABLE TO DO.
FROM THAT POINT ONWARD, WHETHER "THE PILLAR" CAN BE DEFEATED OR NOT...

DON'T BE SO SERIOUS.
YOU HAVE POWER.
IF YOU GIVE IT YOUR ALL, YOU WON'T LOSE.

No one can help me here.
This is my fight, and mine alone.

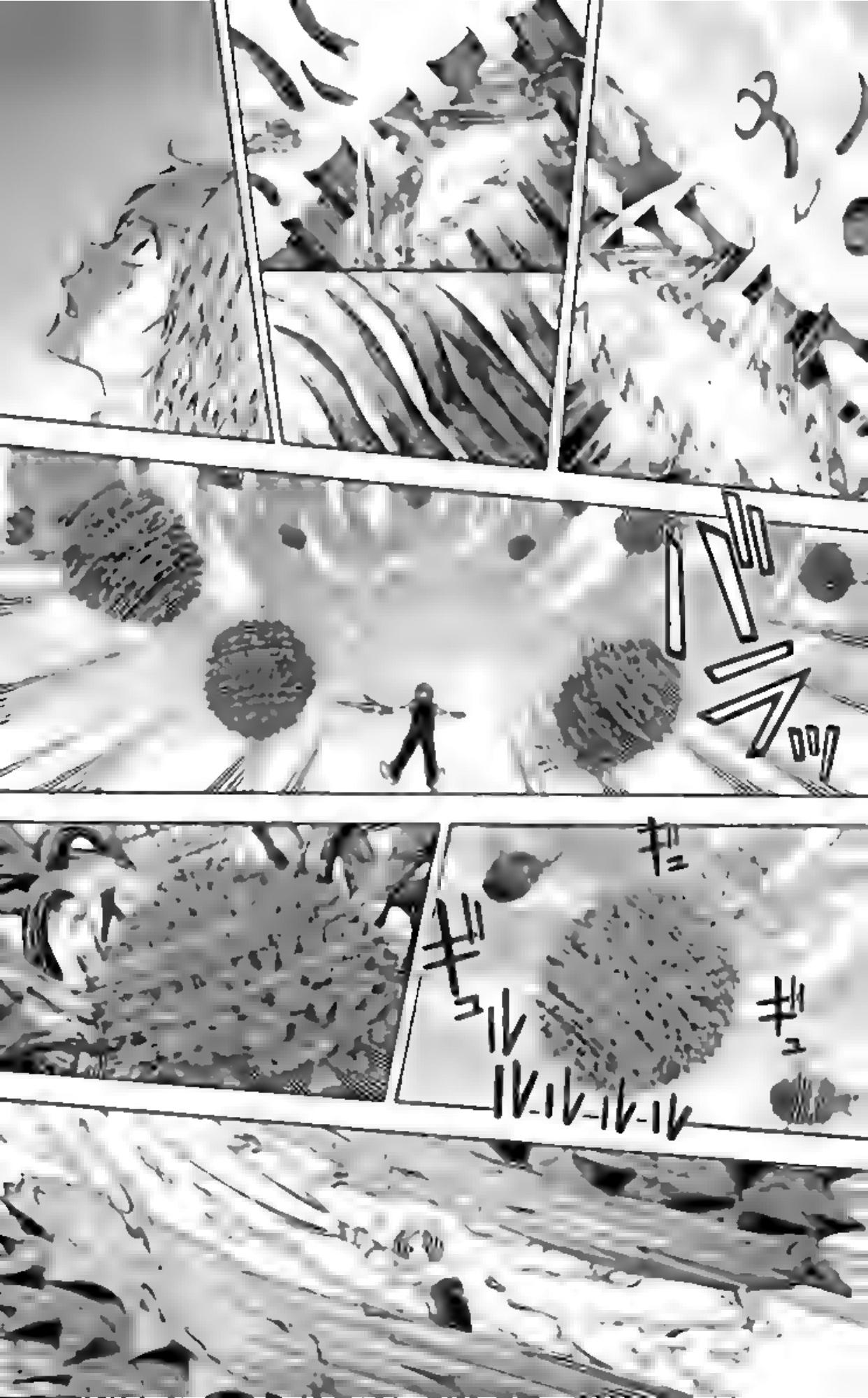
Sever, all that stands before me!

Not enough power?
Or was my aim off!?
UGH!

GAH!

It really feels like I'm fighting against the nine-headed Hydra, or Orochi the eight-headed serpent from Japanese mythology!
A serpent from myth and legend!

キュウウッ…
ボコ
ボコ
ボコ
Even faster than I thought!
The destroyed parts are regenerating..
HAA...



It can even attack like this!?
ガキン
HA!
ズズズ
No matter what, the main body has to be sustaining some damage!

What are those!?

A shock-wave!?
The very air itself is groan-ing. .
It's like I'm going to be shat-tered into pieces!

Huh?
The power of the "Tree of Genesis" is controlling the space more than 10 kilometers ahead?

At this rate, I'm going to get crushed here! I have to destroy the main body of "the Pillar"!

HA!

WHAT'S HAPPEN-ING?
DID "THE PILLAR" START DOING SOME-THING?

HAVE THE GATES OF HELL OPEN-ED? OR ARE THESE THE GATES OF HEAVEN...?

THE CIVILIZATION BLASTER

ZETSUEN NO TEMPEST

by SHIRODAIRA Kyou
and SAIZAKI Ren

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ZETSUEN NO TEMPEST

Chapter 43 - The End of the Dream

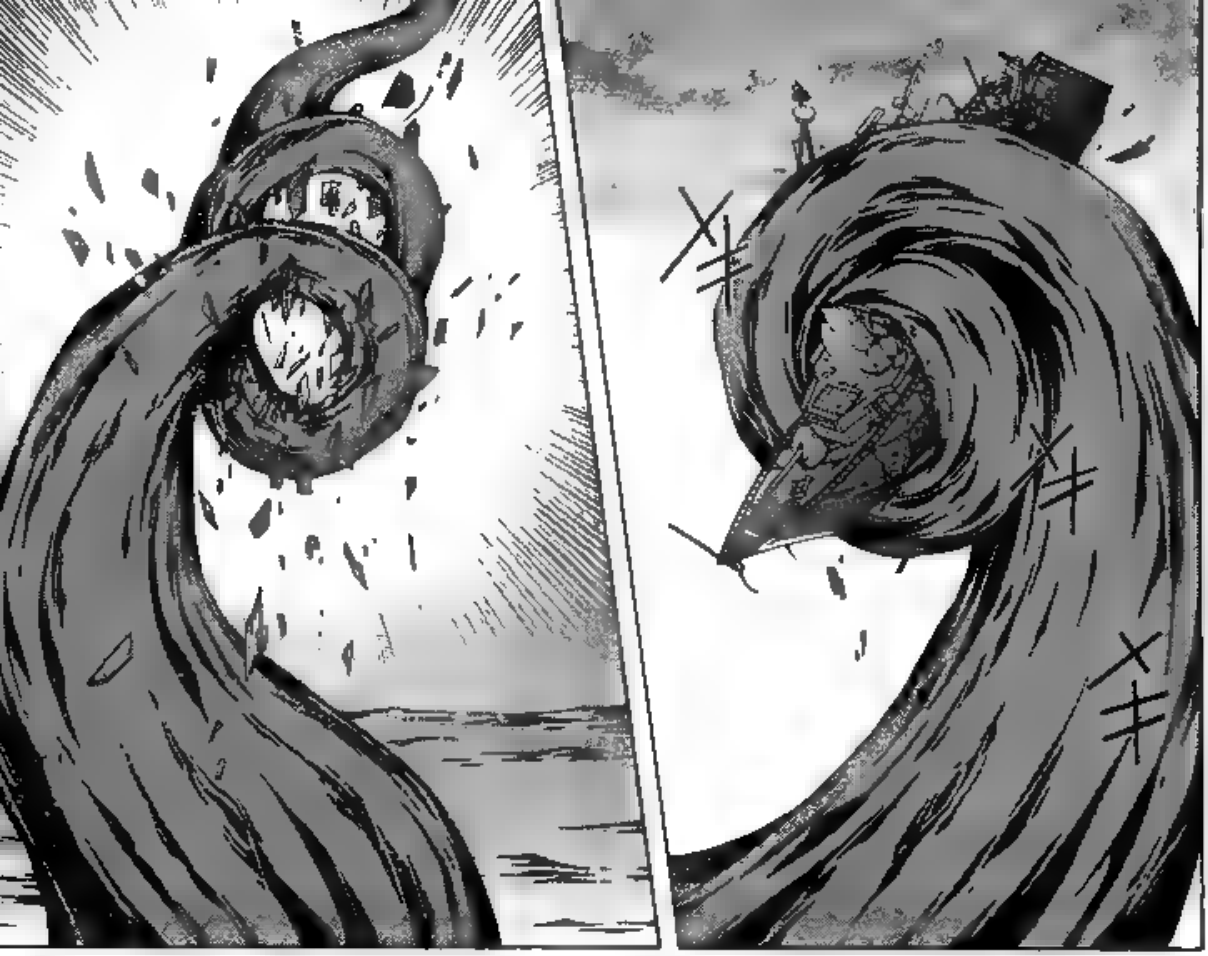
THE CIVILIZATION READER

I've heard nothing about this!
Ahh...ask for orders from Head-quarters!
!?

OTHERWISE WHO KNOWS WHAT YOU'RE GOING TO GET CAUGHT UP IN!
IT'LL BE TOO LATE IF YOU WAIT FOR ORDERS! GET THE SHIP AS FAR AWAY FROM "THE PILLAR" AS POSSIBLE!!
!!
CRACK

THERE'S A MAGICAL BARRIER COVERING THE BOAT! BUT IT WON'T HOLD OUT INDEFINITELY!
PULL BACK NOW WHILE YOU CAN!
GIVE YOUR ALLIES THE SAME MESSAGE!

...THE "MAGICIAN OF EXODUS" IS PROTECTING THE SHIP...?

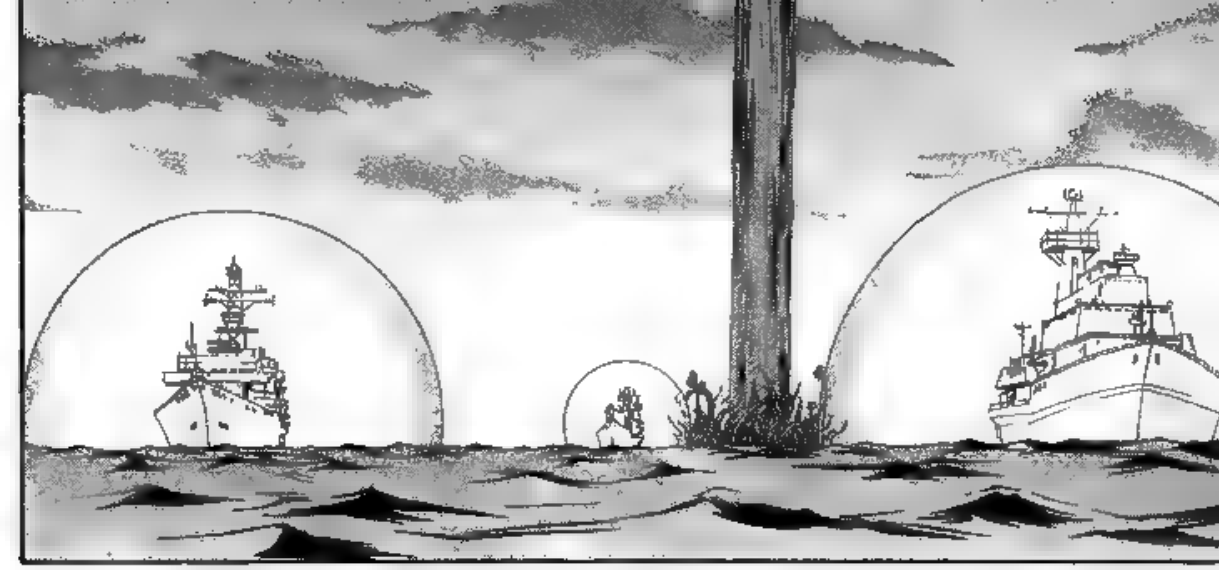


I CAN'T PROTECT THEM ALL...!
MOST OF THE SHIPS HAVE STARTED PULLING BACK, BUT...

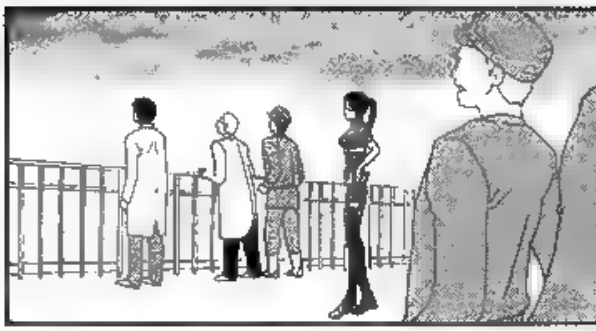
ズズズ
UGH...

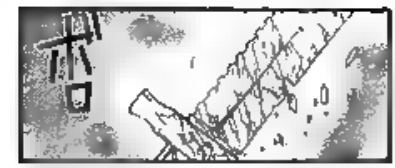
A male [illegible] were brings the correct[illegible] of destroying the Pillar[illegible] understood.

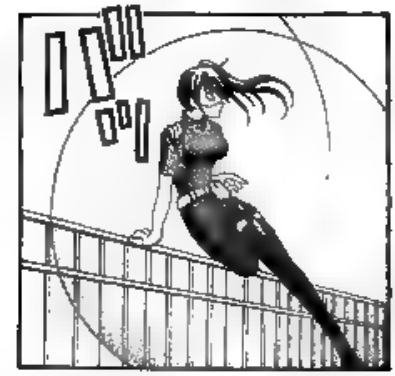
Even if the ships are sunk, as long as their crews are swept into the area where our magic can be used, they can be saved.



THE EFFECT WILL WEAR OFF SOON.
THE SHIPS ARE CURRENTLY BEING CONCEALED BY MAGICAL PROTECTION, BUT .

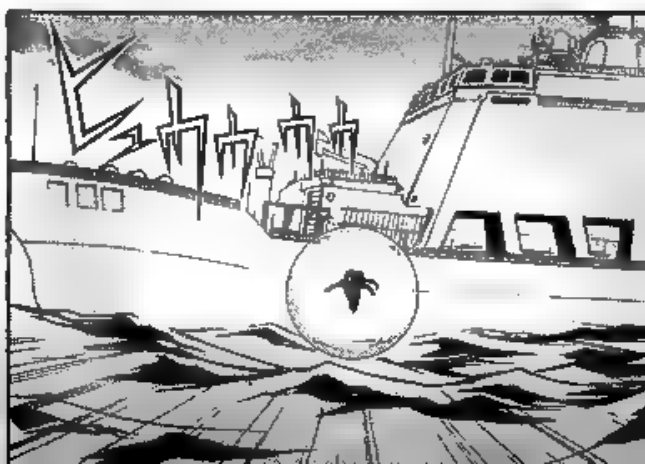






PLEASE GET AS FAR AWAY FROM "THE PILLAR" AS POSSIBLE.
THERE'S NO TELLING HOW FAR ITS POWER EXTENDS.

I've done all that I could.

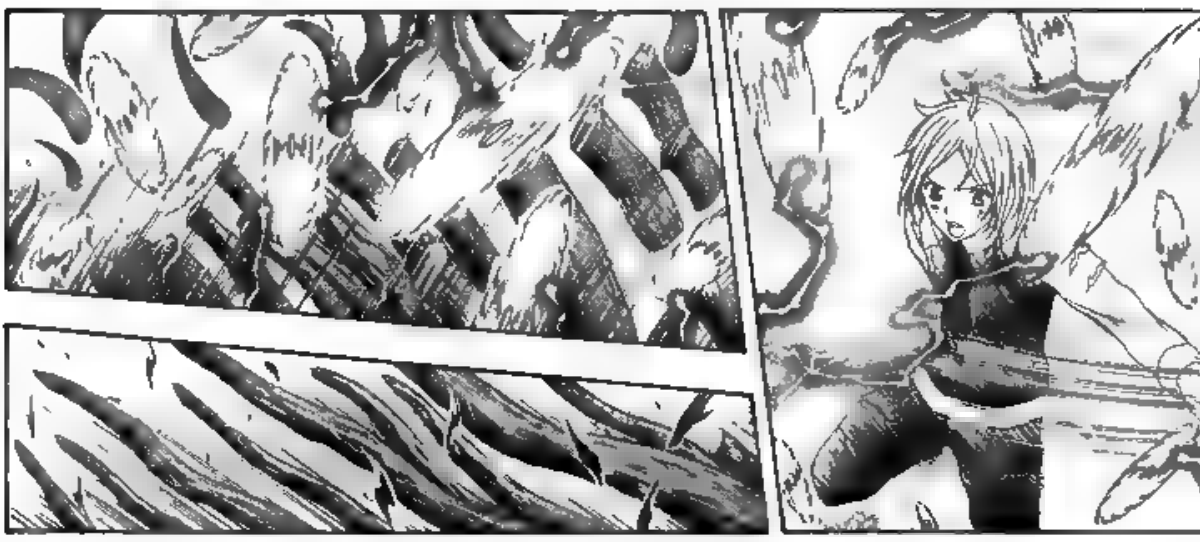


Please, Hanemura-kun - the rest is up to you!
It's no good.
I don't have enough power!
With the power I have now, it re-generates faster than I can des-troy it!

NUU!
The Pillar's attacks are multiplying!

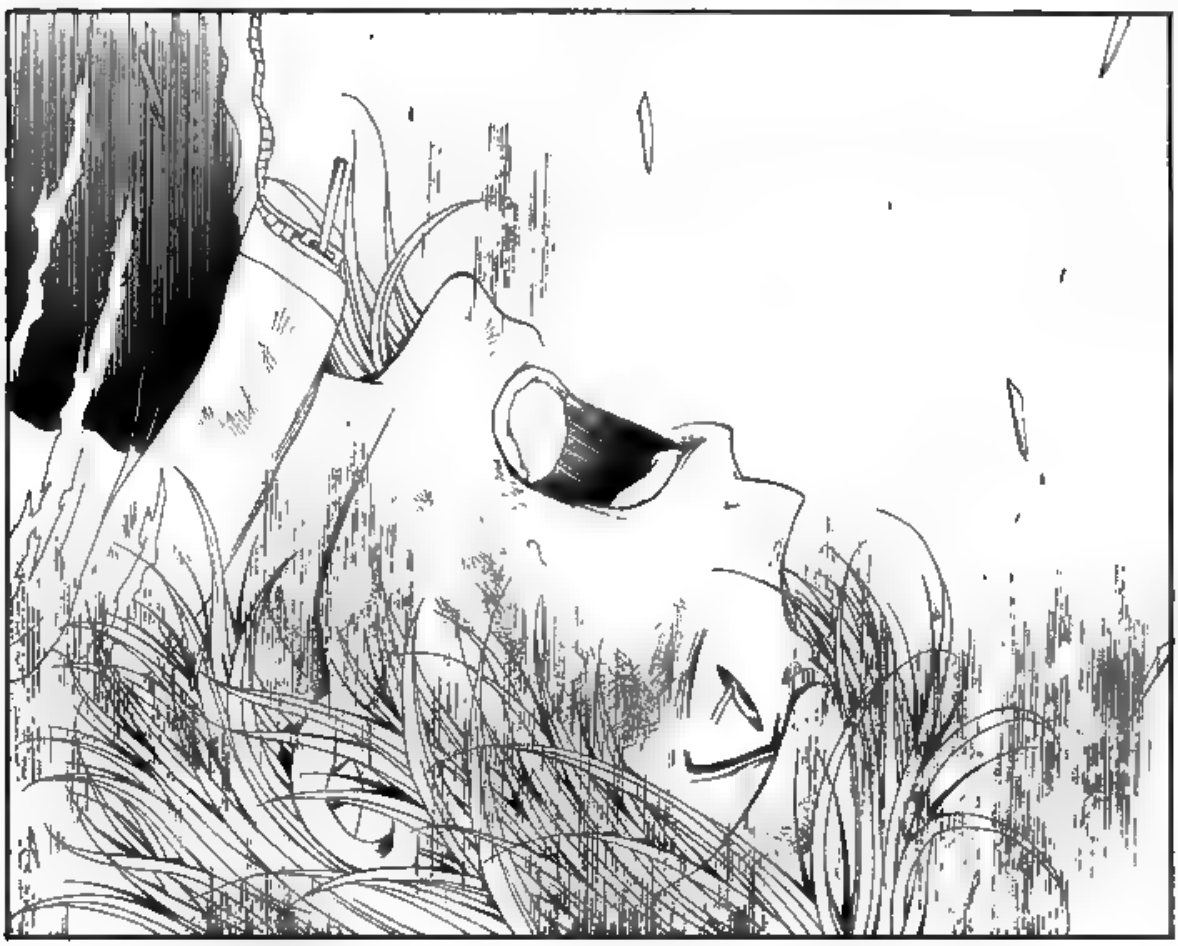
Furthermore...
GUN!
I can't fly freely...
KU...
UGH.

IT'S NO GOOD...SOMETHING'S MISSING!



SOMETHING DECISIVE...!

MORE...



GIVE ME MORE POWER...

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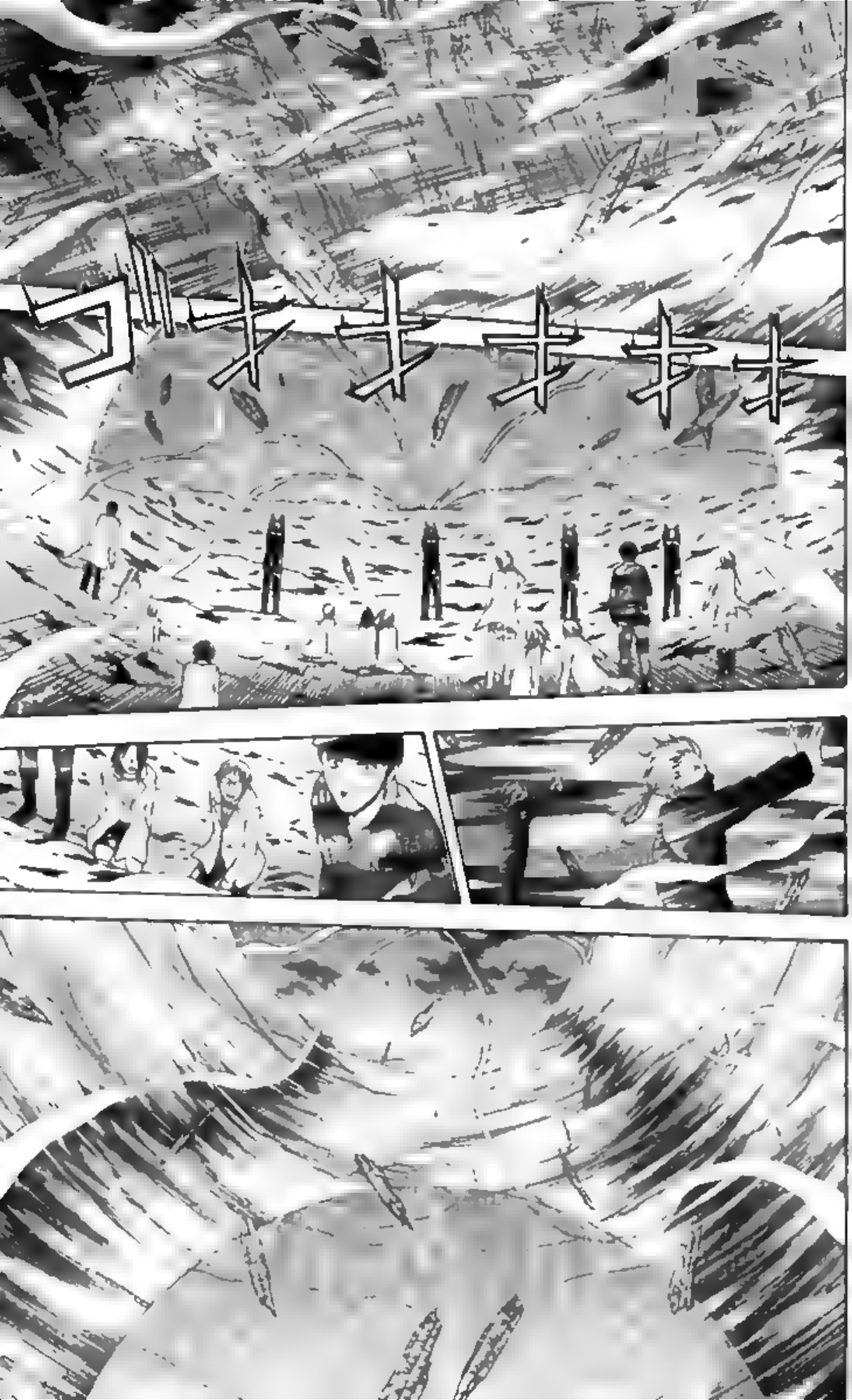
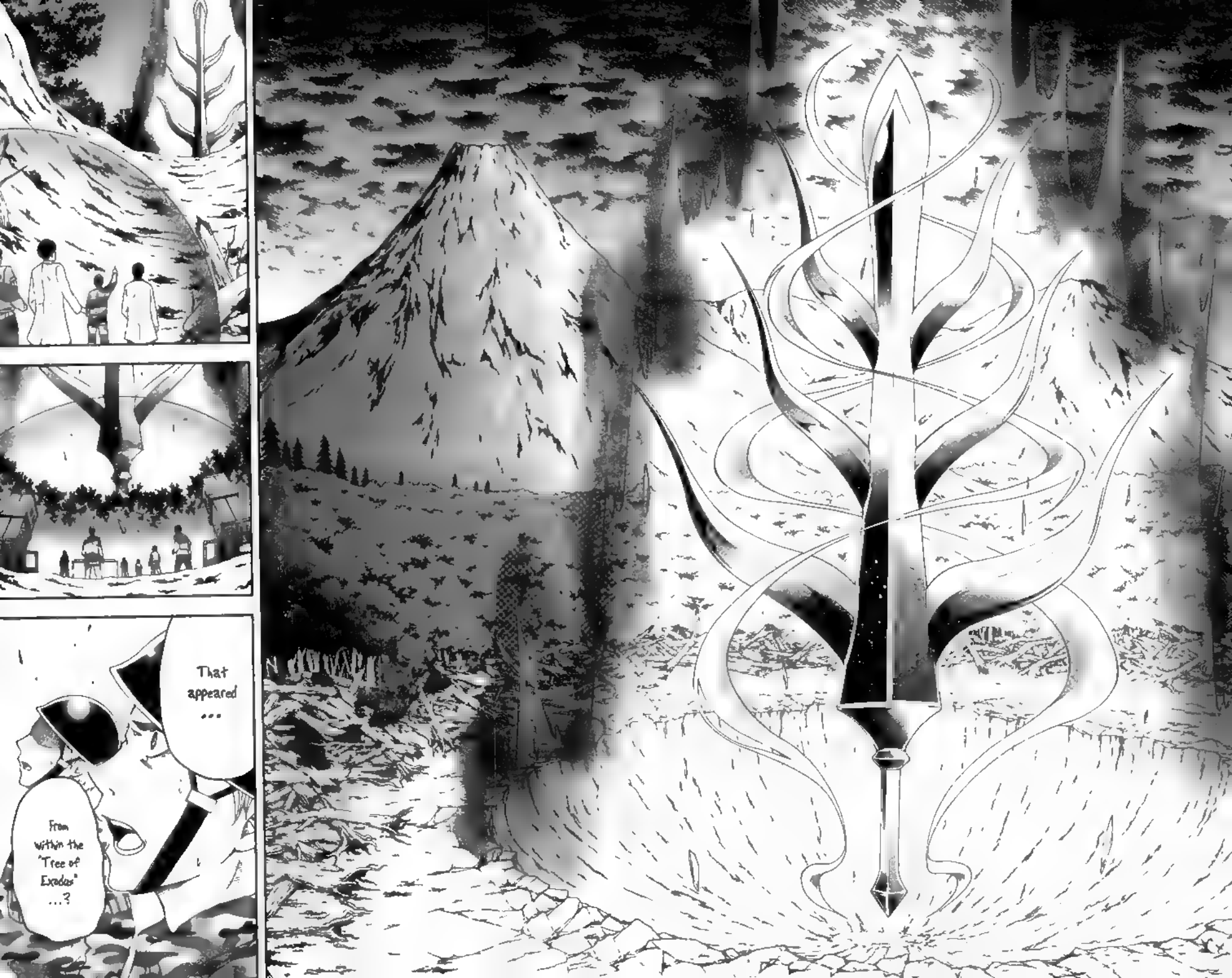
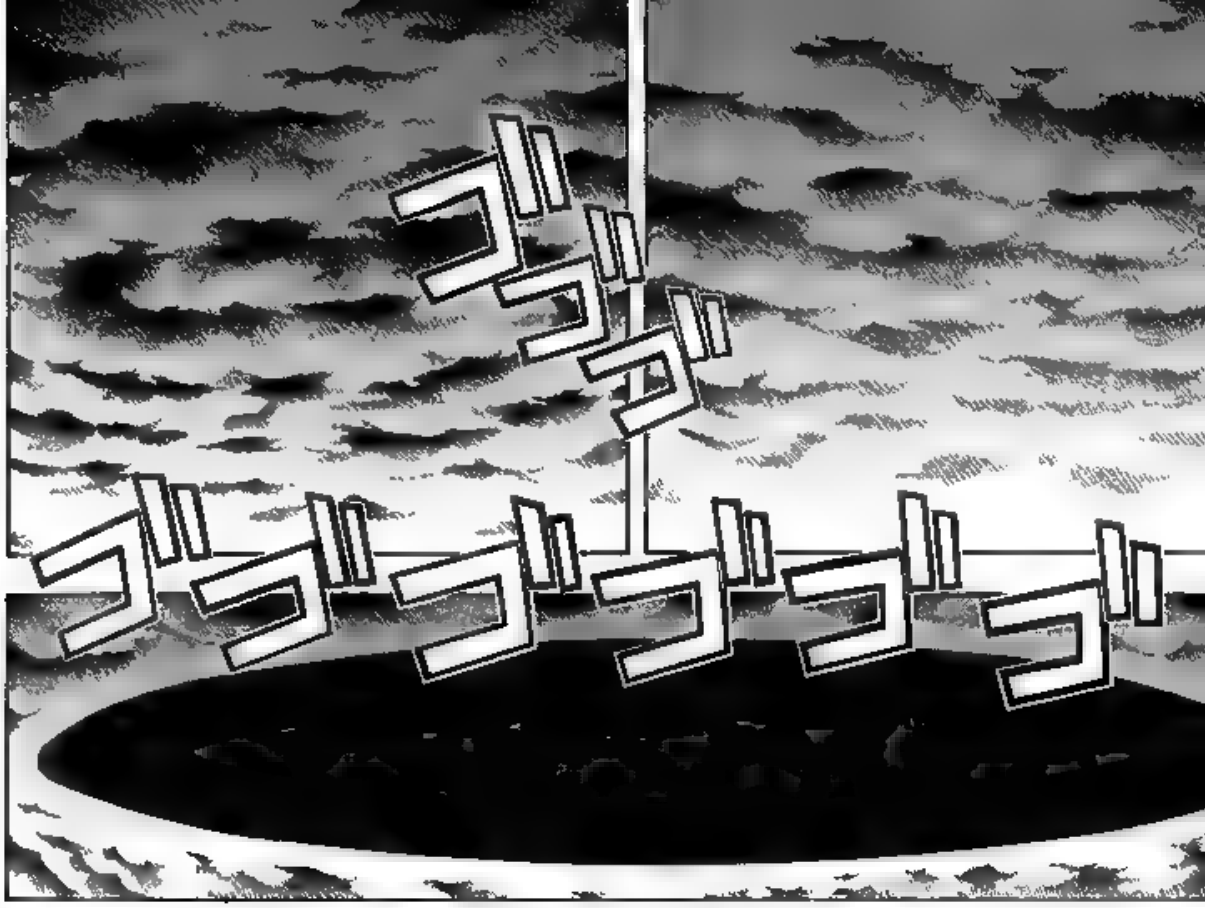
THE "TREE OF EXODUS" IS SHOWING UNUSUAL ACTIVITY!
GET AWAY FROM THE "TREE OF EXODUS"!
LEAVE ALL YOUR EQUIP-MENT!
RETREAT! RETREAT!

WE'LL TRY OUR BEST TO MINIMIZE THE CASUALTIES!
LEAVE THIS PLACE TO US!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING! HURRY AND ESCAPE!
.....!?




That appeared ...
From within the "Tree of Exodus" ...?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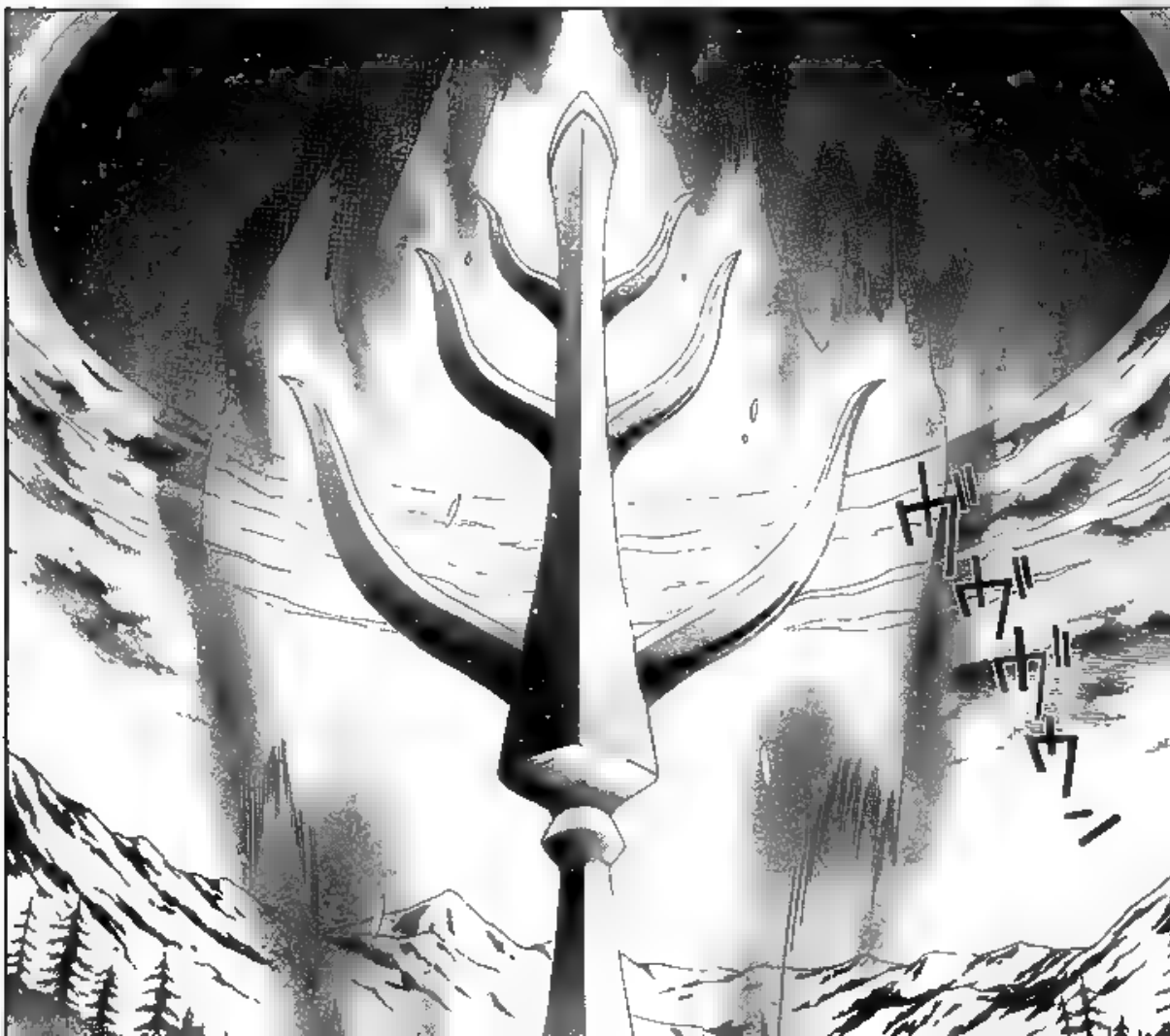
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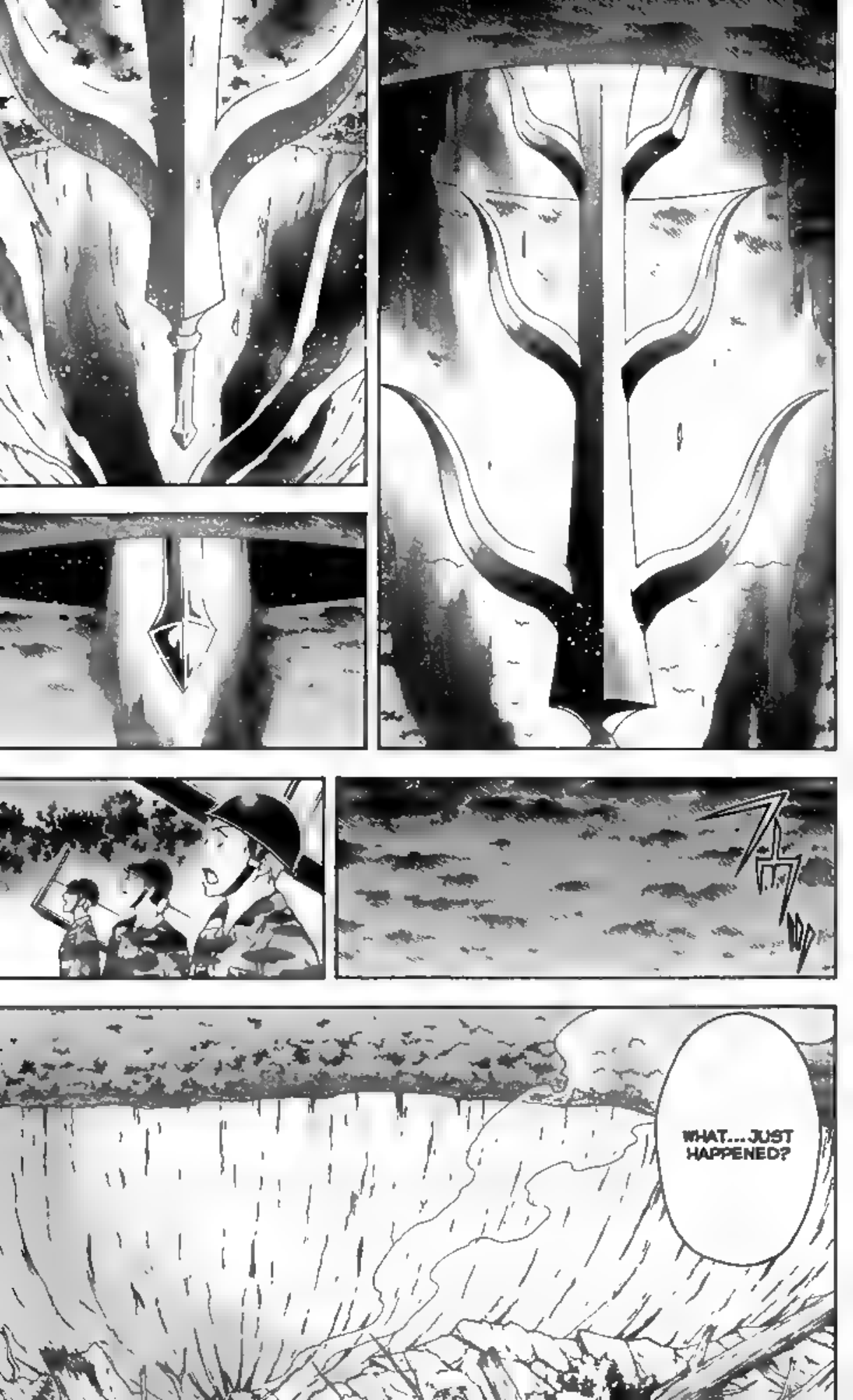
WHAT... JUST HAPPENED?

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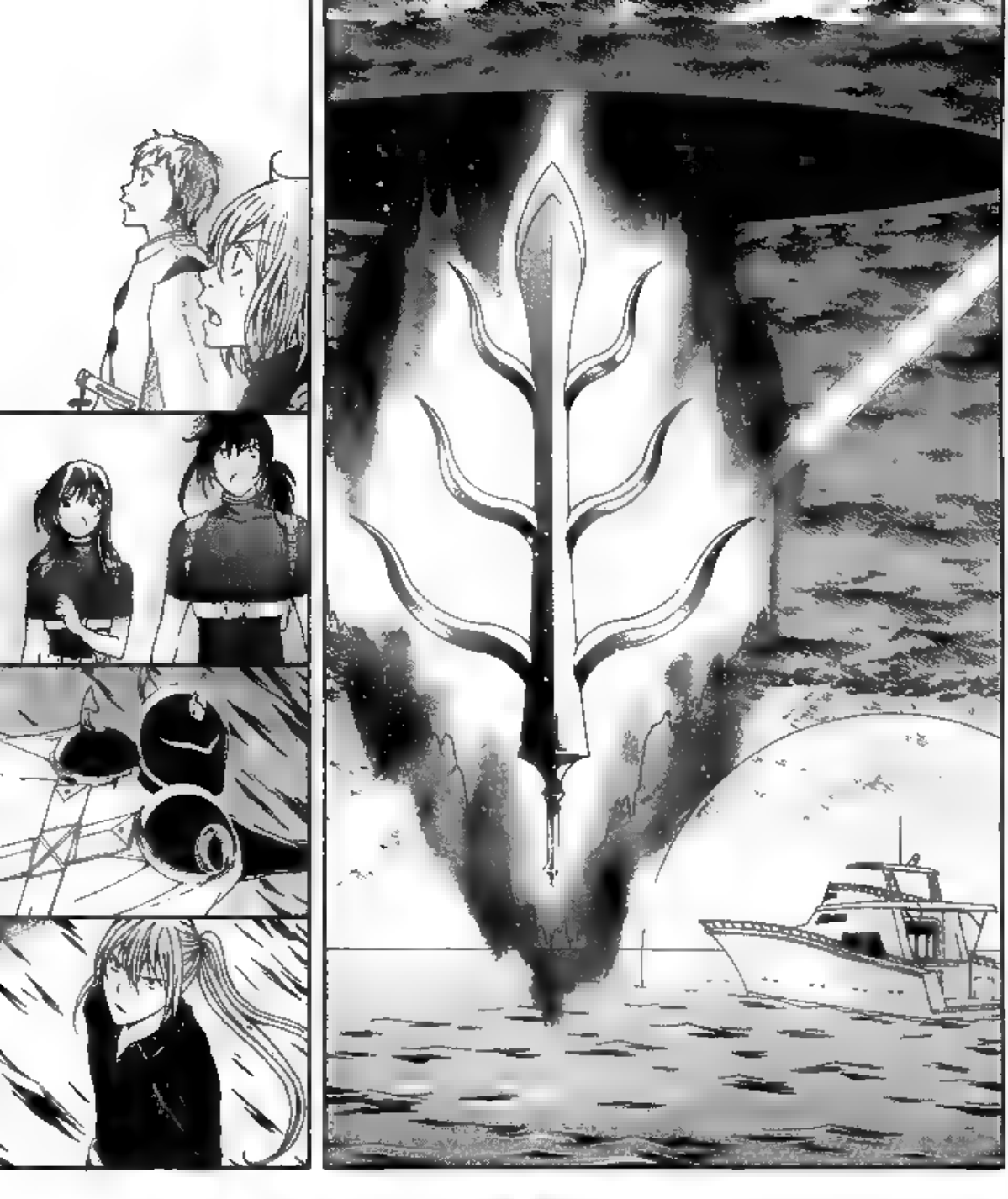
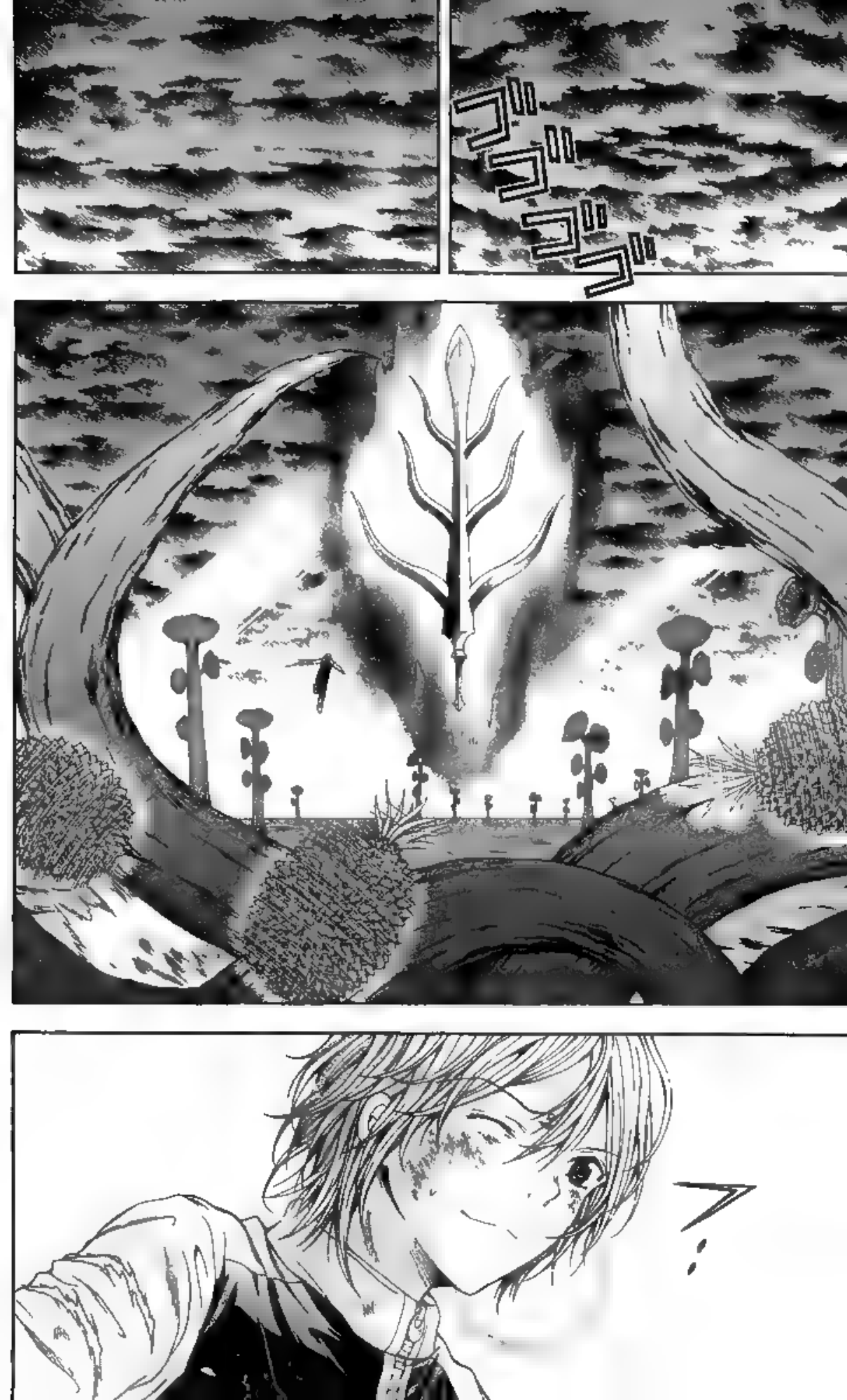


THIS IS...
THE "TREE OF EXODUS" ...!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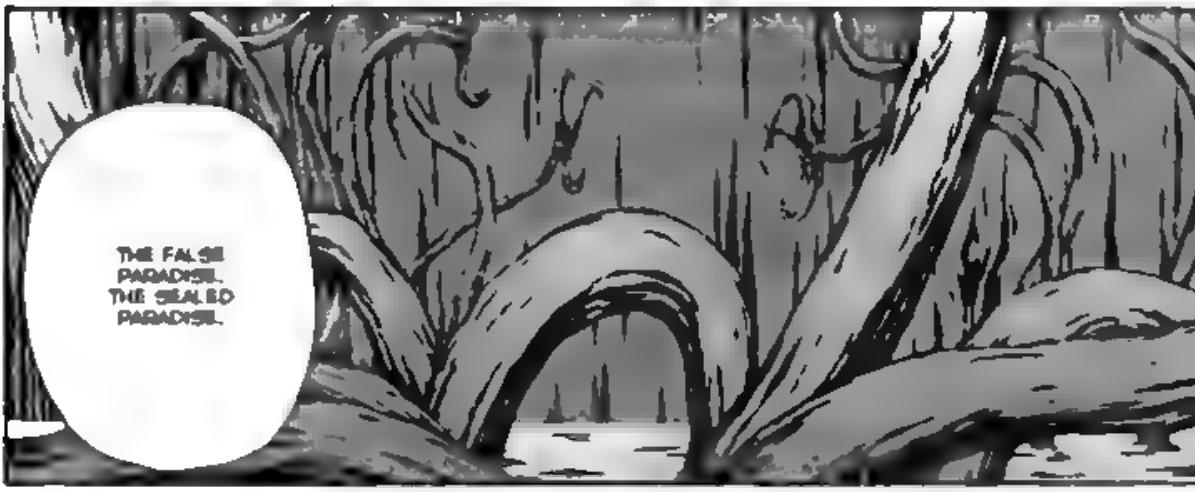
COME!

WHEW...

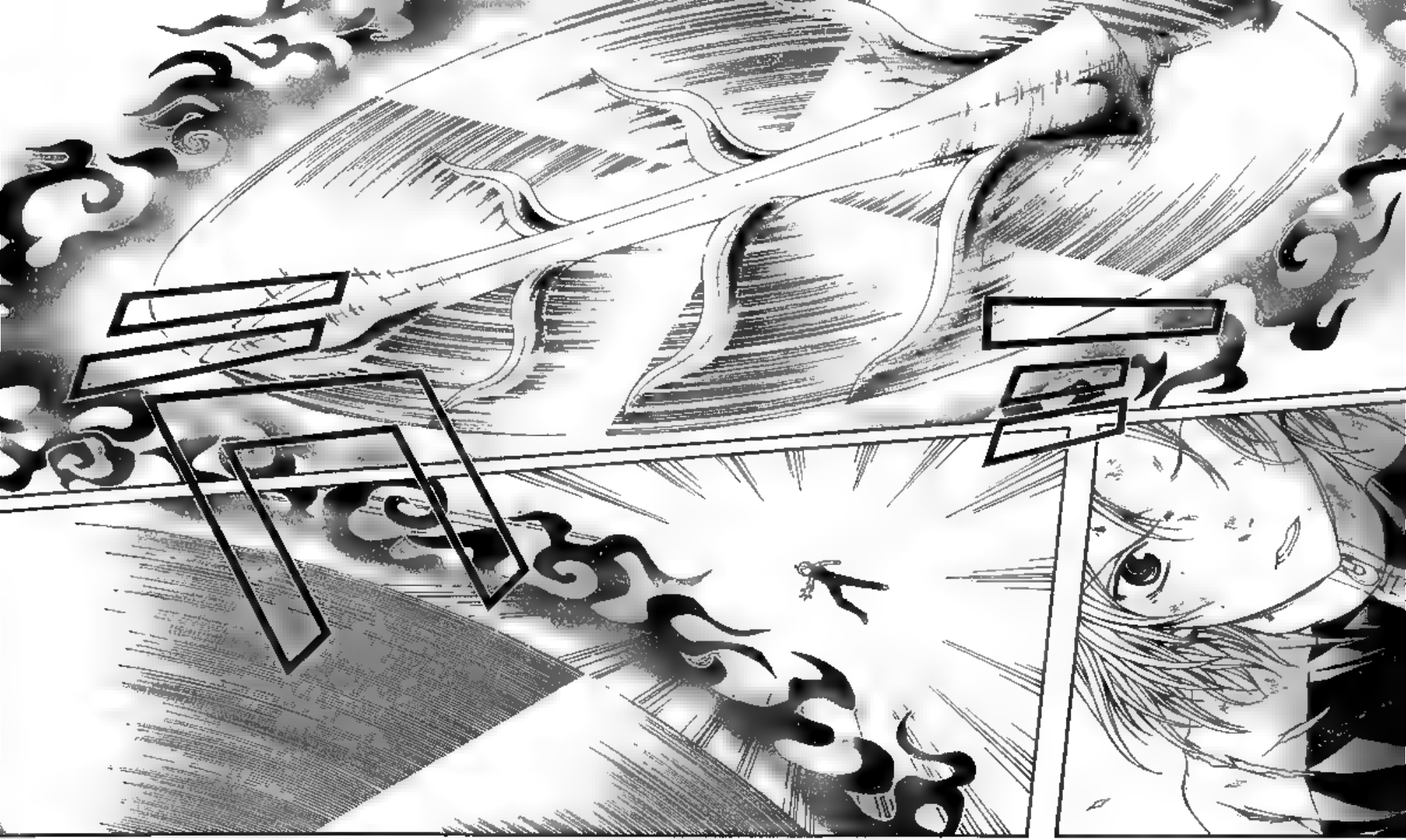
NOW I FINALLY UNDER-STAND.
WHAT I NEED TO DO, AND HOW TO DO IT

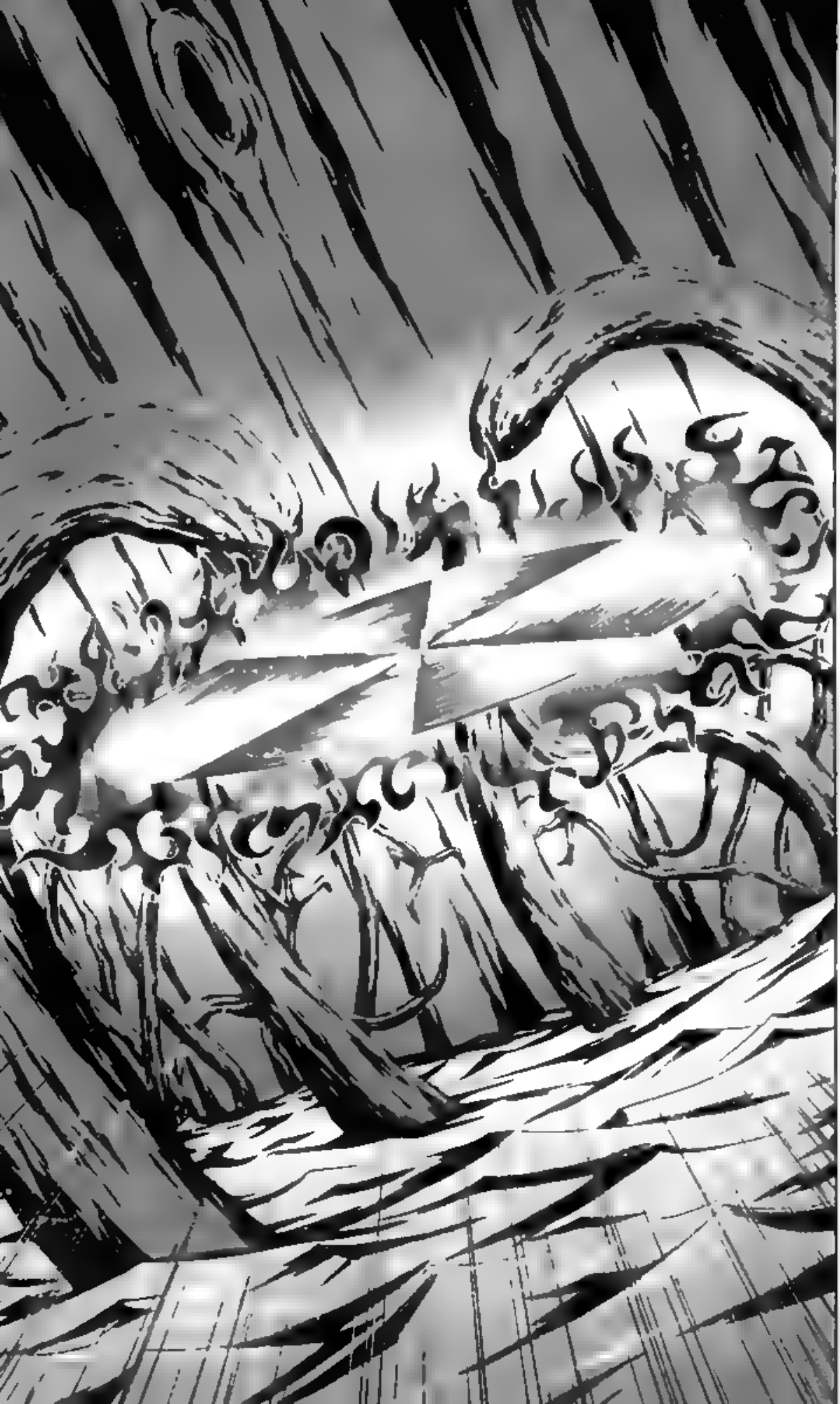
I MADE IT IN TIME.

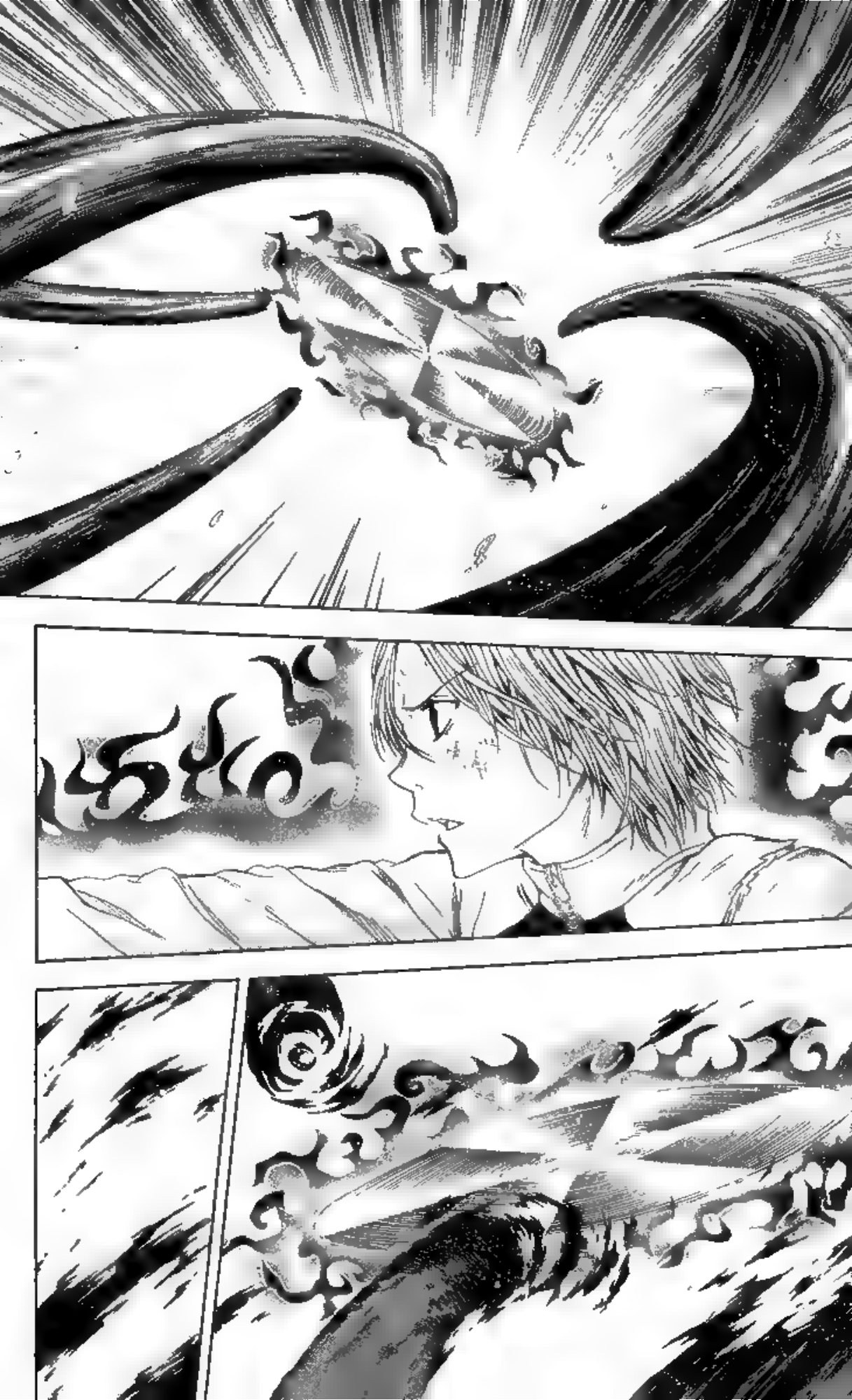

THE FALSE PARADISE. THE SEALED PARADISE.

EXODUS.
THAT WHICH ENDS IT IS...

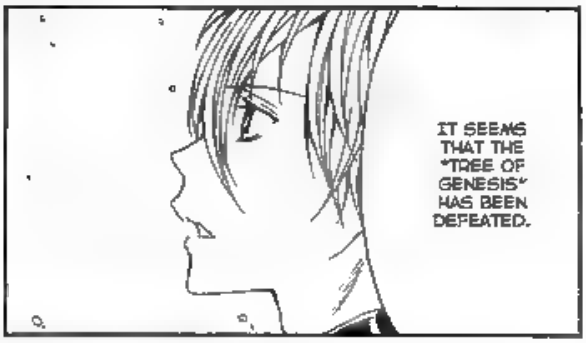
THIS IS THE END.
AND IT IS ALSO THE BEG-INNING.
SEVER!

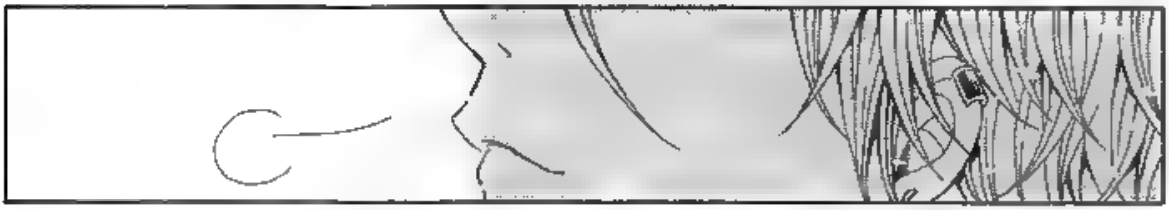


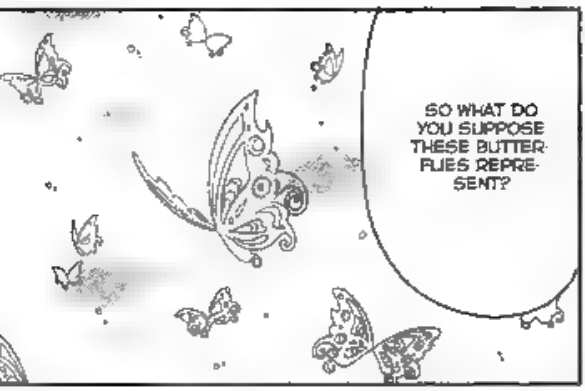




LOOKS LIKE IT


IT SEEMS THAT THE "TREE OF GENESIS" HAS BEEN DEFEATED.




SO WHAT DO YOU SUPPOSE THESE BUTTER-FLIES REPRE-SENT?

HEY, YOSHINO, DID YOU KNOW?
BUTTER-FLIES, LONG AGO, WERE THOUGHT TO BE THE SOULS OF THE DEAD TAKING SHAPE, OR HARBINGERS OF DISASTER, AND OTHER SUCH THINGS.

YOU COULD CALL IT A BUTTERFLY'S DREAM, AS WELL.
OR PERHAPS THEY SIGNIFY THE STRUGGLES TO COME?
PERHAPS THEY REPRESENT THE NUMBER OF THOSE THAT DIED BECAUSE OF THE TREES?
MAYBE THE WORLD WE'VE KNOWN UP UNTIL NOW HAS JUST BEEN A CONVENIENT ILLUSION.
IS THIS WORLD A DREAM, OR REALITY?

OF COURSE THEY ARE.
ANYTHING ELSE IS UNREASON-ABLE.

I WONDER IF EVERY-ONE'S OK.

DON'T YOU GO SAYING UNLUCKY THINGS NOW.

IF HE STAYED DUMPED AFTER SAVING THE WORLD
WELL, THAT'S NOT EVEN FUNNY

IT'D BE GREAT IF HANE-MURA...
COULD GET BACK TOGETHER WITH HIS EX-GIRL-FRIEND

7

HUH?

WEL... NOW THAT THINGS ARE WRAPPED UP HERE.
THERE'S ONE OTHER THING TO TAKE CARE OF.

I THOUGHT IT WAS UNREASONABLE TO PUNCH ME. ?
LAST★1992
?.
HOWEVER...
ABOUT HARPING ON REASON THIS, LOGIC THAT
IT'S ALL BECAUSE HANEMURA TOLD ME OFF ..
I WON'T EVER HIT YOU A SECOND TIME.
SO, PLEASE FORGIVE ME THIS ONCE.

AND WHAT EXACTLY DO YOU MEAN BY THIS AND THAT?
DON'T THINK THIS IS THE END OF IT.

I'M REALLY GETTING OFF EASY!
JEEZ .. AND AFTER AIKA-CHAN AND I DID THIS AND THAT AND HID IT FROM YOU...

SO BE IT.

WAH..
AIKA-CHAN WOULD HATE YOU FOR THAT, YOU KNOW?

I'LL HOLD A GRUDGE FOREVER, YOU KNOW?

I WOULDN'T CHANGE THAT NO MATTER WHAT OR HOW OTHERS THOUGHT OF ME.
I ACCEPT MYSELF AS I AM.

AND THAT'S PRECISELY WHY YOU CAN BE RELIED UPON.
AIKA-CHAN SURELY FELT THE SAME WAY.
I THINK IT'S BECAUSE YOU AND I CAME TOGETHER AS A SET.
HOW SHOULD I PUT THIS...?

THIS IS THE END OF THE DREAM.
WITH THIS, MAGIC WILL DISAPPEAR AS WELL.

SHALL WE SET OFF FOR REALITY, WITHOUT RELYING ON DREAM-LIKE POWER ANY LONGER?
YES.

THE CIVILIZATION BLASTER

ZETSUEN NO TEMPEST

by SHIRODAIRA Kyou
and SAIZAKI Ren

easy going scans
www.egscans.com

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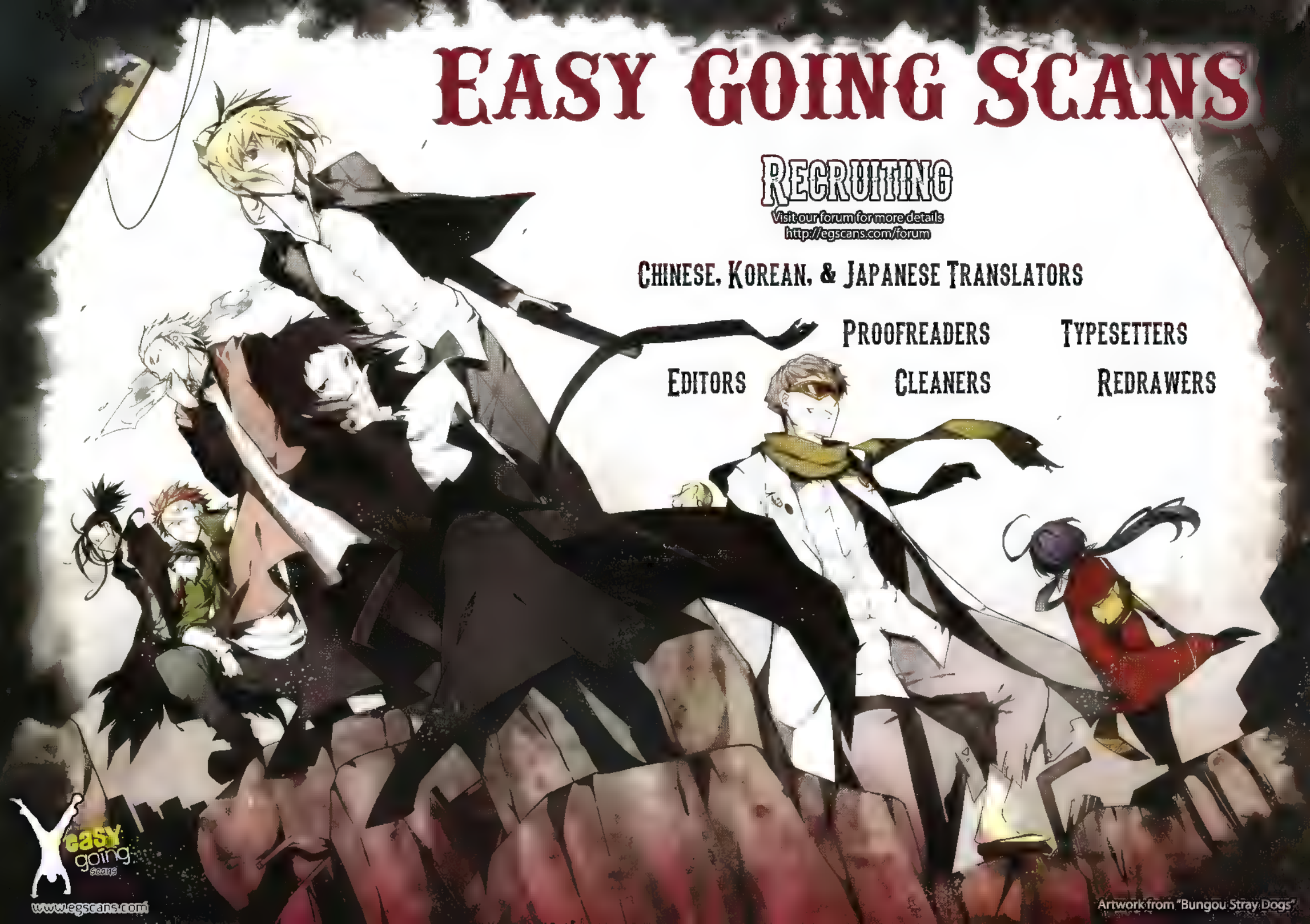

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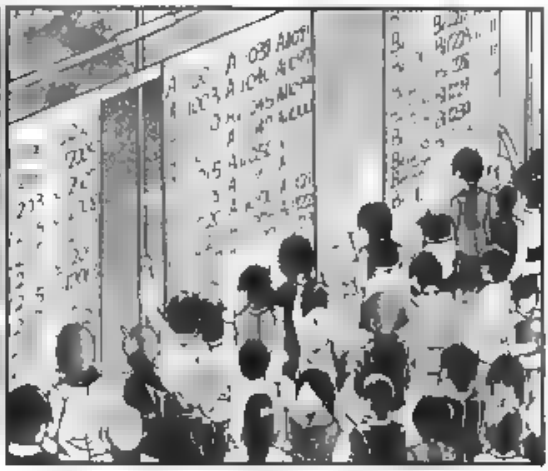
Artwork from "Bungou Stray Dogs"

第四章
狩猟のハーツター

Final Chapter: Let's Start Over Again

THE CIVILIZATION BLASTER



WHEW...THANK GOODNESS WE PASSED.

NORMALLY ATTENDANCE WOULD BE AN ISSUE TO EVEN QUALIFY FOR THE TEST, BUT
IT SEEMS HAYAKAWA MANAGED TO PULL OUT ALL THE STOPS AND GET US THROUGH SOMEHOW.

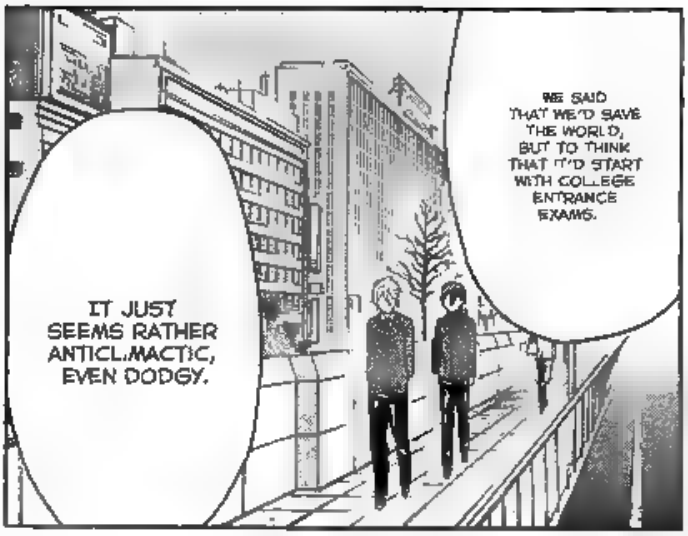
I MEAN, AFTER ALL, TAKING THOSE TESTS AFTER MORE THAN HALF A YEAR OF NOT GOING TO SCHOOL.
WHO KNEW WHAT WOULD HAPPEN...

YOU WOULDN'T EVEN BE ABLE TO LAUGH IF YOU FAILED AT THIS POINT

WE EVEN HAD SAMON-SAN TAKE ON THE ROLE OF OUR GUARDIAN.
WE'D HAVE TO BEG FOR FORGIVE-NESS IF WE FAILED.

BUT...

THINGS IN LIFE GO YOUR WAY MORE WHEN YOU HAVE AN EDUCATIONAL PEDIGREE.
NETWORKING, ENTERING GOVERNMENT SERVICE, FOUNDING A COMPANY

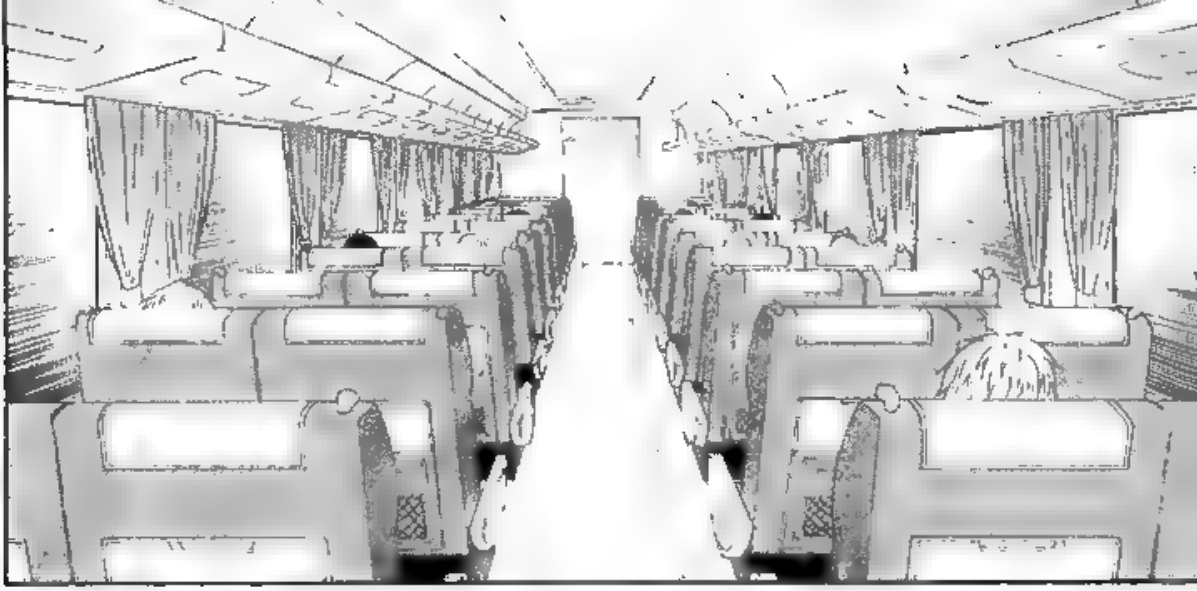

WE SAID THAT WE'D SAVE THE WORLD, BUT TO THINK THAT IT'D START WITH COLLEGE ENTRANCE EXAMS.
IT JUST SEEMS RATHER ANTICLIMACTIC, EVEN DODGY.

DESTRUCTION CAN BE FLASHY AND INSTANT-ANEOUS, BUT CREATION IS BANAL, BORING, AND TIME-CONSUMING.

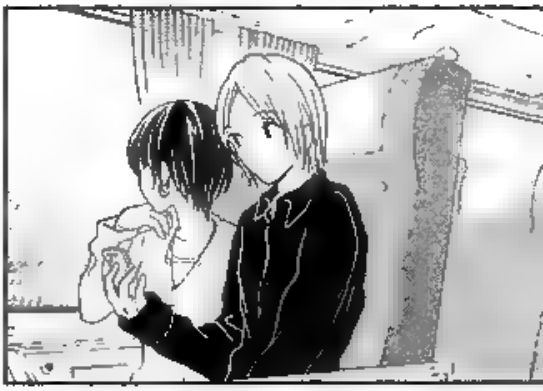
AS IF MINORS COULD SAVE THE WORLD ALL OF A SUDDEN.

THERE'S NO END TO IT IN SIGHT...
YEAH.
I HAVE TO LET EVERYONE KNOW WE PASSED.
WHAT ABOUT HAKAZE SAN AND HANEMURA-SAN?
IF YOU HAVE THE ABILITY TO MASS-MESSAGE, YOU MIGHT AS WELL, RIGHT?
THEN YOU WON'T HAVE TO TELL THEM AGAIN WHEN YOU SEE THEM.
I MEAN, WE'RE GOING TO SEE THEM SOON ENOUGH, RIGHT?

Results
Both of us have passed. Thank you all for your support.
- Takigawa Yoshino
SPRING...
HAS COME AGAIN, HUH?



SO MAHIRO-KUN AND YOSHINO-KUN BOTH PASSED, HUH...
OF COURSE, IT'S ONLY NATURAL.

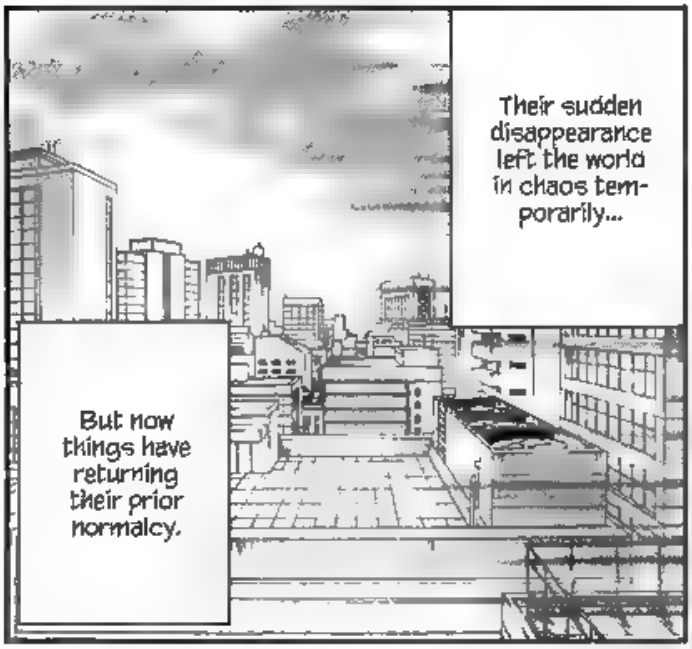


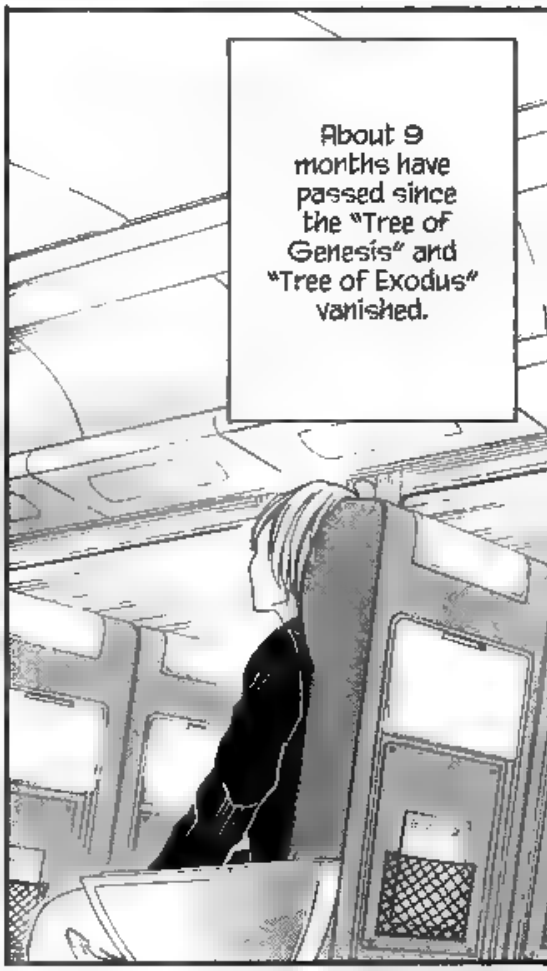
TO THE POINT OF TAKING THIS HUGE DETOUR RIGHT BEFORE OUR VACATION?

HEY... MEGU?
YOU HAVE TO SEE THOSE TWO, NO MATTER WHAT?

WHY ME?
WE WON'T HAVE MANY OPPORTUNITIES TO MEET UP AFTER THAT
I'LL BE BUSY WITH WORK STARTING NEXT MONTH, AS WELL.
I WANT TO INTRODUCE THEM TO YOU AS WELL.
PLUS.
I WOULD HAVE FORGIVEN YOU RIGHT AWAY AS SOON AS YOU FOUND A PROPER JOB AND APOLOGIZED.
DON'T ACT SO HIGH AND MIGHTY.
THAT WE GOT BACK TOGETHER YOU KNOW?
IT'S KIND OF THANKS TO THEM...
JUST WHAT WERE YOU DOING WHILE WE WERE BROKEN UP?
I DON'T KNOW WHETHER IT'S THAT YOU'VE BECOME MORE STEADFAST OR THAT YOU'VE BECOME MUCH MORE AWARE OF YOUR SURROUNDINGS.
YOU'VE CHANGED, MEGU.

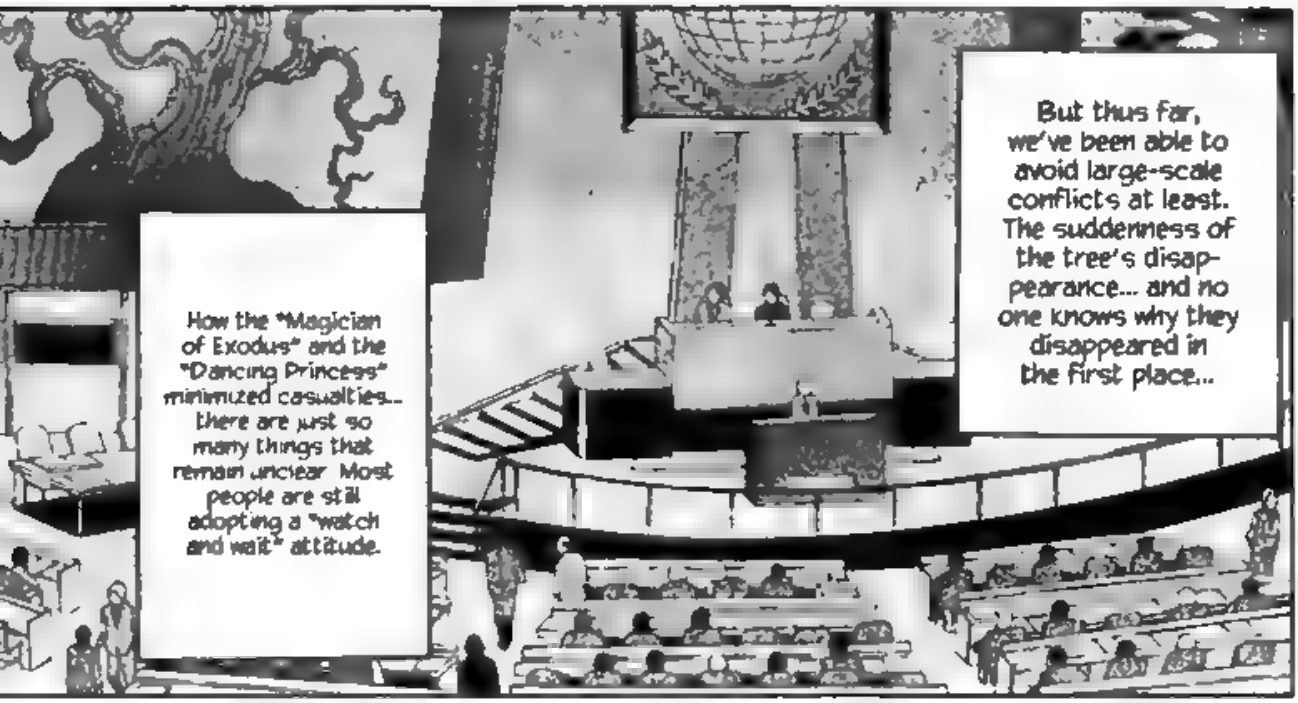
HMM...
HELPING TO SAVE THE WORLD, I SUPPOSE?


Their sudden disappearance left the world in chaos temporarily...
But now things have returning their prior normalcy.

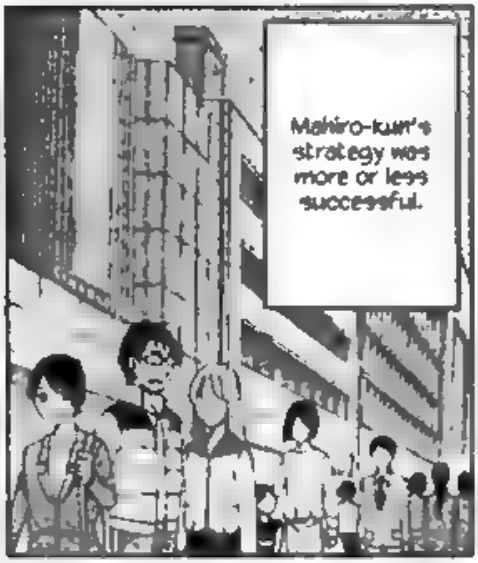

About 9 months have passed since the "Tree of Genesis" and "Tree of Exodus" vanished.

That is, superficially at least.

Old problems from before the appearance of the trees have returned as well.
Conflicts have been popping up all over the world.
Since the trees disappeared, crime has been increasing day by day. Controversy about the trees continues as well.


How the "Magician of Exodus" and the "Dancing Princess" minimized casualties... there are just so many things that remain unclear. Most people are still adopting a "watch and wait" attitude.
But thus far, we've been able to avoid large-scale conflicts at least. The suddenness of the tree's disappearance... and no one knows why they disappeared in the first place...

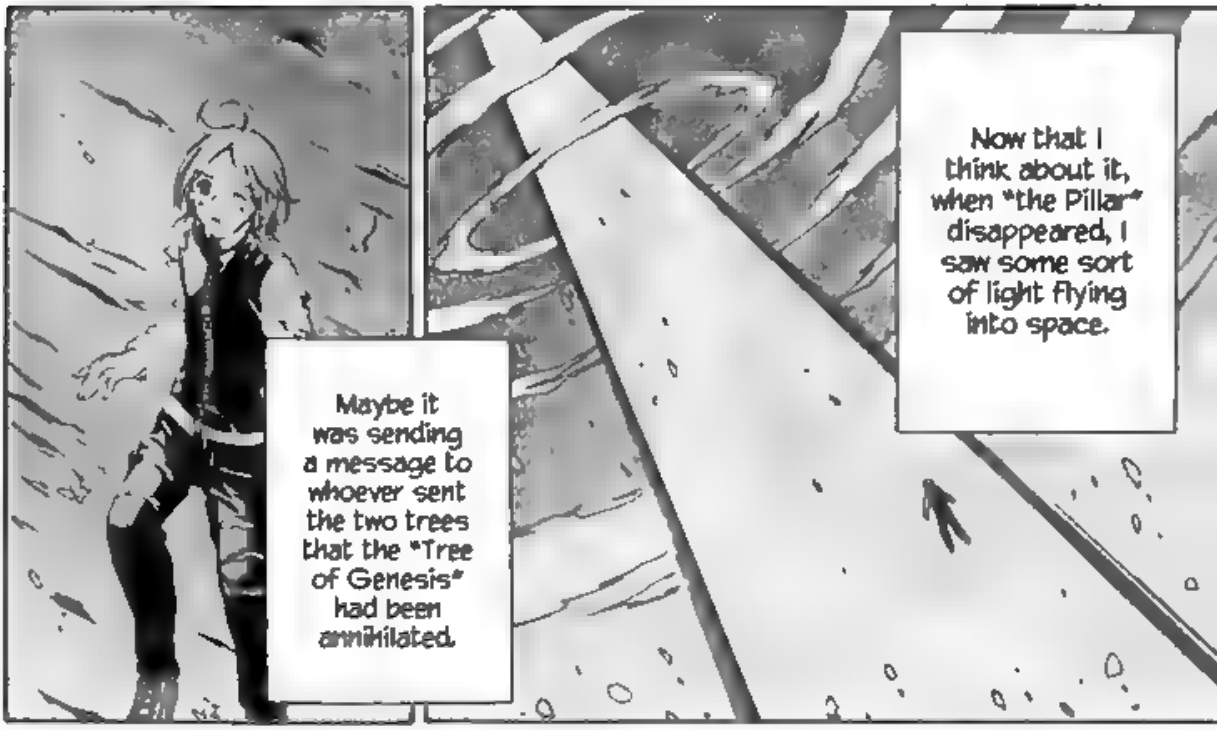
And of course, Hayakawa-san deserves credit for all his efforts after managing to place himself within the center of government.

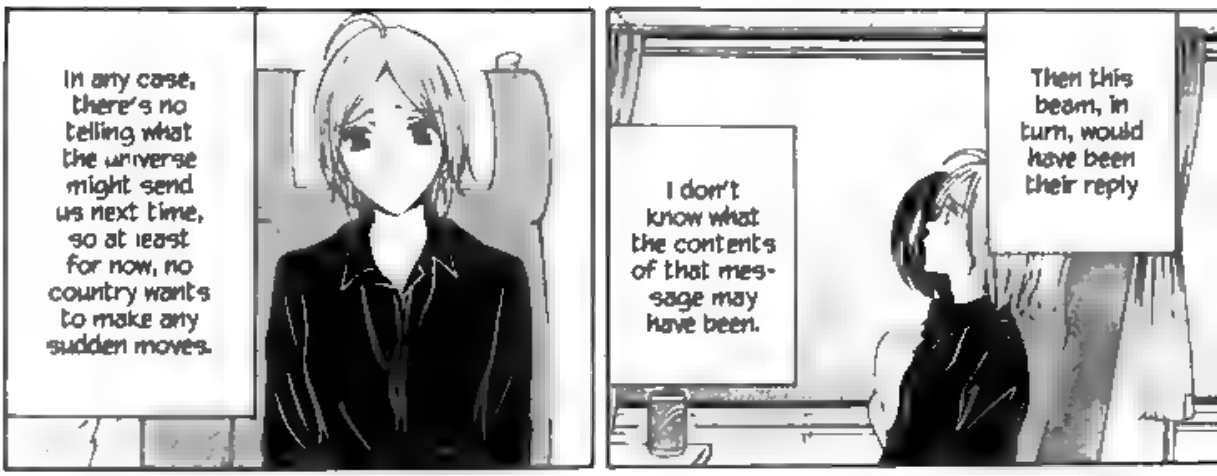

Mahiro-kun's strategy was more or less successful.

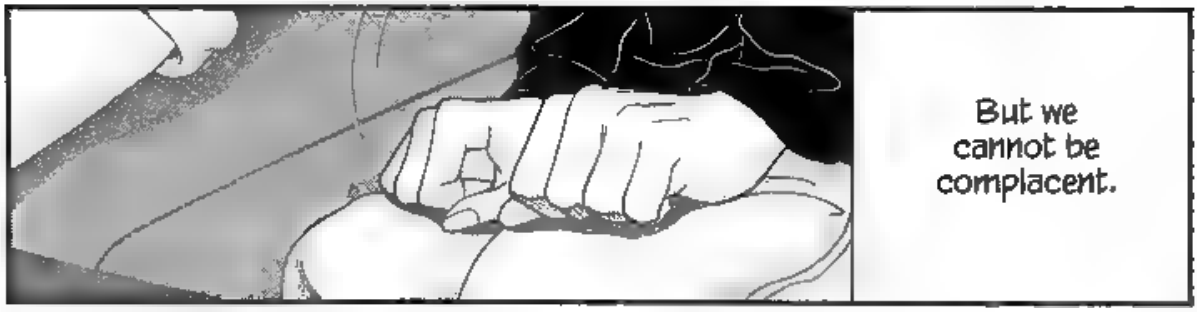
Things are quiet now but it's like navigating a tightrope.
Although I hear it remains to be seen how long that state of affairs can endure.
AND YET THEY JUST SIT THERE PASSIVELY WITH ALL THIS INFORMATION, AFTER THE FACT
I'VE ALREADY TOLD THEM WE WERE EXPECTING INFLATION IN AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES, AND THAT THE OUTLOOK FOR THE STOCK MARKET ISN'T LOOKING GOOD.
IT'S JUST ONE USELESS MEETING AFTER ANOTHER, DAY AFTER DAY...
HOW LONG IS IT GOING TO BE UNTIL THEY CAN START HELPING ME?
SO THEY PASSED, HUH?
MMM...

There are other reasons that things haven't gotten out of hand.
The place where the "Tree of Exodus" used to be was struck by something like an energy beam.
About two months after the "Tree of Genesis" disappeared...
There was an explosion.

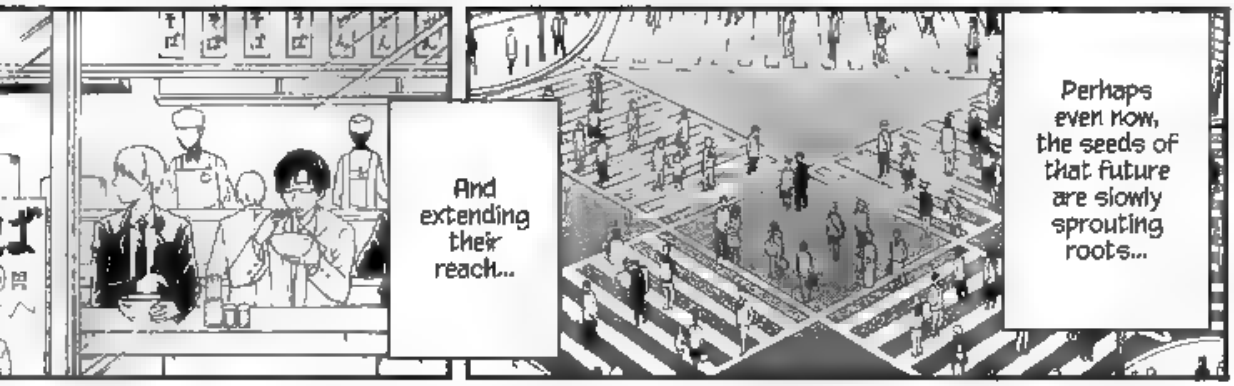
It looked like a long message in some kind of language had been carved there.
It was kept out of the news, but after the explosion...

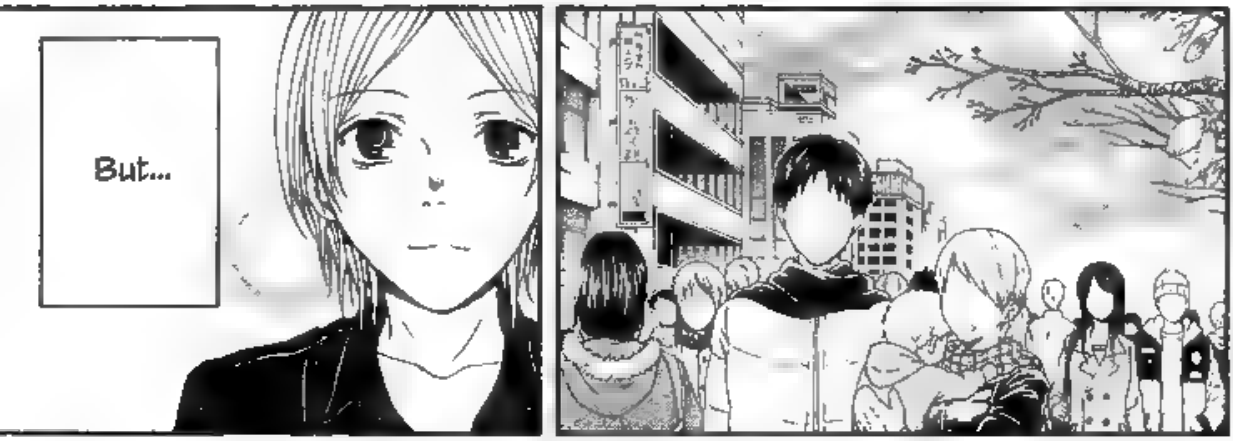

Maybe it was sending a message to whoever sent the two trees that the "Tree of Genesis" had been annihilated.
Now that I think about it, when "the Pillar" disappeared, I saw some sort of light flying into space.


In any case, there's no telling what the universe might send us next time, so at least for now, no country wants to make any sudden moves.
I don't know what the contents of that message may have been.
Then this beam, in turn, would have been their reply


But we cannot be complacent.

Perhaps in another decade or two, war and terror will arise, on a grand scale.
And then billions will be killed, not by magic, but by human hands and wills.


And extending their reach...
Perhaps even now, the seeds of that future are slowly sprouting roots...

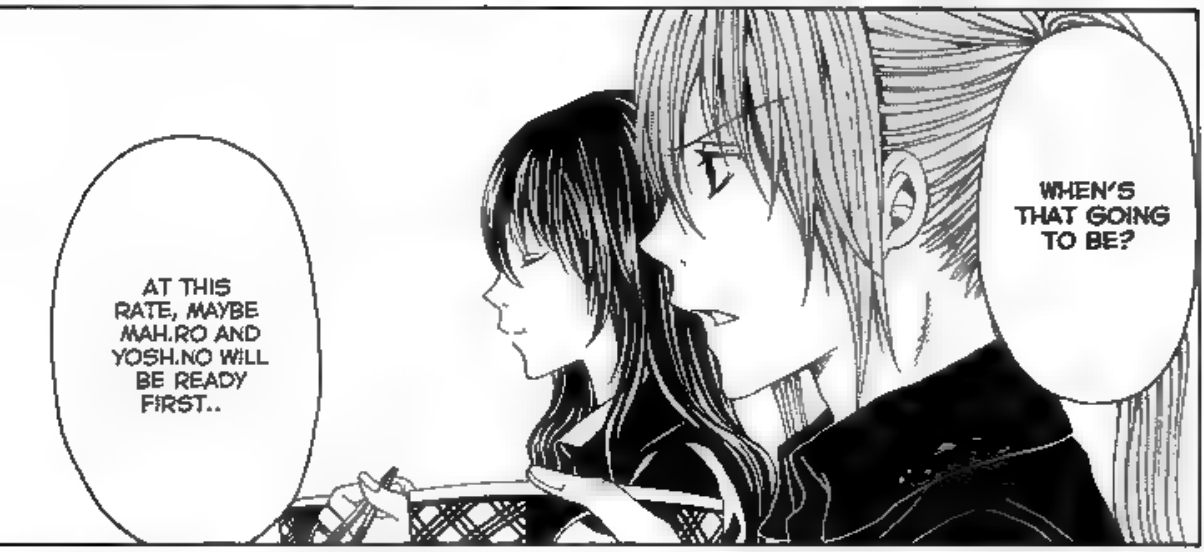

But...

When that time comes, those two will be there to stop it.
But in about a week, it all stopped working.
Which is why I'm just a normal, unassuming human now.
Incidentally...
Even after the two trees disappeared, the magic of Exodus and of the Kusaribe could still be used...

GO GET BACK TO GETHER WITH YOUR EX-GIRL-FRIEND SOME-HOW AND LIVE A NORMAL, HAPPY LIFE.
NOW THAT MAGIC IS GONE, YOUR ROLE IS OVER.
IF AT LEAST ONE OF US COULD DO THAT.
IT'D BE A GREAT RELIEF...
I'll have my hands full just with normal life.
Plus, I've managed to get a job now.
Well...I won't be of any use to anyone from now on, after all.

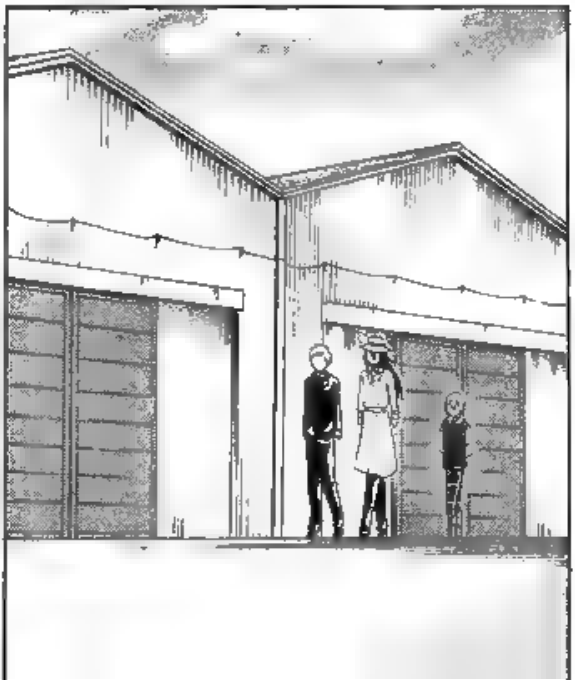
But given their organizational strength, Hayakawa-san's taken them on as his personal secret intelligence service.
The Kusaribe clan lost their magic.
Samon-san must have prepared for such a time as well.
MAHIRO-KUN AND YOSHINO-KUN PASSED!
AS THEIR GUARDIAN, SHOULDN'T YOU MAKE AN APPEARANCE AT THE ENTRANCE CEREMONY?
THAT'S JUST ON PAPER
NEITHER OF US HAVE THAT KIND OF TIME TO SPARE

HOPEFULLY HE CAN TURN THINGS AROUND ONCE HE HAS A BIT MORE INFLUENCE
HE STILL HAS A BAD IMAGE FROM SUPPORTING THE TREE OF GENESIS' DESTRUCTION
I WONDER HOW HAYAKAWA IS GETTING ALONG.
IN TERMS OF SECURING FUNDING FOR OUR EXPENSES.


AT THIS RATE, MAYBE MAH.RO AND YOSH.NO WILL BE READY FIRST..
WHEN'S THAT GOING TO BE?

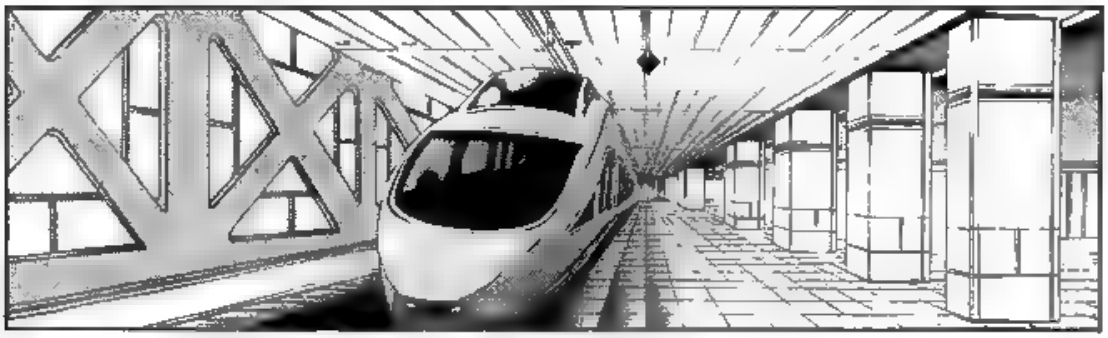
IS IT TRUE?
I'VE HEARD RUMORS THAT FRAULEIN YAMAMOTO AND SAMON-DONO ARE DATING.

I'VE ONLY HEARD RUMORS AS WELL
WHO KNOWS.



Just who is that woman in the first place?
And what's up with "Fraulein"!?
……

WHAT'S WRONG WITH THAT?
IT SEEMS SPRING HAS COME FOR SAMON-SAN AS WELL.



THEY'D BOTH FIND THAT TROUBLE-SOME...
THEY'RE KINDA ODD IN THAT WAY.

WE'RE GOING TO MEET THEM SOON...
IS IT REALLY OK TO NOT BRING A PRESENT?

……
SO WHY DO YOU ABSOLUTELY HAVE TO INTRODUCE ME TO THIS KIND OF PEOPLE?

WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY THAT?
THESE ARE THE PEOPLE WHOSE NAMES WILL BE IN THE HISTORY BOOKS OF THE FUTURE. IT'S RARE TO BE ABLE TO SAY THAT YOU MET THEM WHEN THEY WERE BOYS.
IT'LL BE A GOOD MEMORY
WAIT A COUPLE OF DECADES, AND I'M SURE YOU'LL SEE.

THERE'S NOT MUCH TO CONGRATULATE, RIGHT?
NO NEED TO START OFF LIKE THAT.
CONGRATS ON PASSING!
THIS WOULD BE QUITE NORMAL, I THINK?
NO...
DIDN'T YOU JUST GET YOUR LICENSE RECENTLY? ARE YOU OKAY WITH DRIVING?
I DON'T HAVE QUITE AS MUCH CONFIDENCE IN YOU WITHOUT THE TREE OF GENESIS' PROTECTION, YOU KNOW...

I'VE BEEN FINE LIVING ON MY OWN.
GETTING MY LICENSE WAS ONLY NATURAL.
BACK IN DRIVING SCHOOL THEY SAID I WAS QUITE GOOD, YOU KNOW?
I'M NO LONGER BLESSED WITH FORTUNE LIKE I USED TO BE, BUT IT SEEMS MY BASIC SKILLS ARE PRETTY HIGH.
フ…
IF YOU SAY IT LIKE THAT
AFTER ALL, YOU WERE THE PRINCESS, HAKAZE-SAN. YOU WERE ESPECIALLY AFFECTED BY THE LOSS OF THE TREES, RIGHT?
YOU DON'T HAVE TO TRY SO HARD FOR US, RIGHT?
I CAN'T DO THE COMPLICATED STUFF LIKE SAMON AND THE OTHERS ARE DOING.
BUT IF I DON'T AT LEAST GET THE SKILLS TO GET THROUGH DAILY LIFE, I'LL JUST BE DEAD WEIGHT
WITHOUT MAGIC, I'M JUST A STUCK-UP, PRIVILEGED WOMAN, AREN'T I?

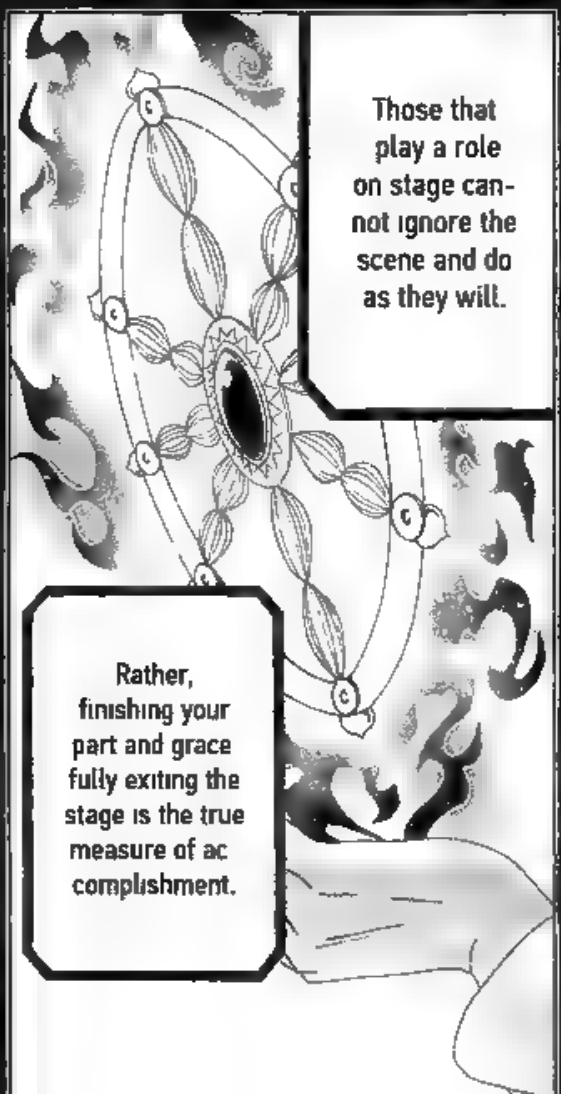
I WONDER ABOUT THAT
THERE'S MORE TO WORRY ABOUT OUT HERE IT'S TOUGHER, ACTUALLY
SOMEONE THAT ONCE SURVIVED ALONE ON A DESERTED ISLAND FOR MORE THAN FOUR MONTHS.
CAN HARDLY BE SAID TO BE LACKING IN LIFE SKILLS.
HEY, BY THE WAY...
WHAT WAS IN THE MES-SAGE THAT AIKA LEFT FOR YOU GUYS?

AH...
NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT YOU DIDN'T SEE IT, HUH.
IT WAS ADDRESSED TO YOU GUYS SO I NEVER ASKED, BUT
IF YOU DON'T MIND, COULD YOU TELL ME?
THE MESSAGE WAS ON A USB DRIVE.
AFTER WE FINISHED WATCHING IT, MAHIRO ERASED IT IMMEDIATELY
AS FOR WHAT SHE SAID
WELL, IT WAS VERY HER.
NO SENSE IN MOPING OVER IT, RIGHT?

Mahiro's going to lose it otherwise
I'm leaving behind my last message in this form.
Mmm...
I'd better leave a proper message behind.

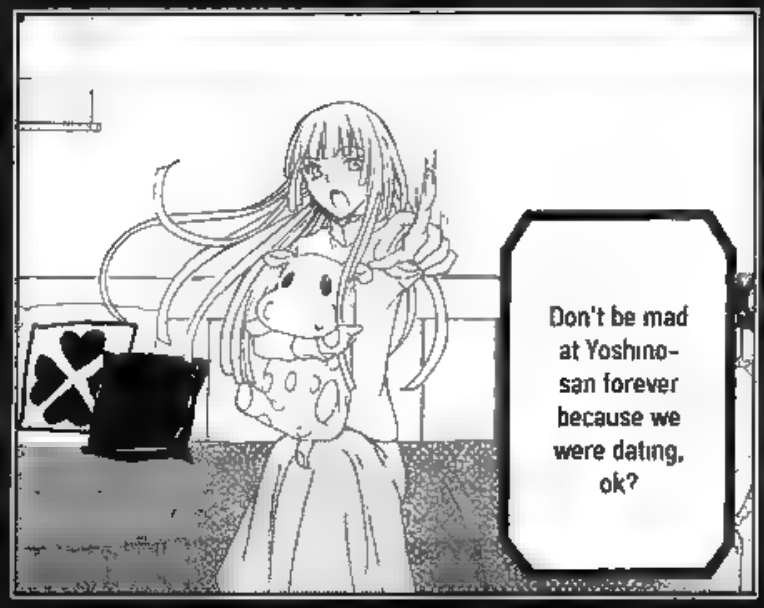
The "Tree of Genesis" has probably already been defeated by this point.
With all the irregularities, things might be quite tough for awhile.
ハァ…
But, well..
If the tree is destroyed in haste
Then those who joined together to do so may very well fall in upon themselves.
You'll manage somehow, and you will overcome.
If Yoshino-san is with you, Mahiro, I'm sure you can do it.
Eh...

Since that's what I believe, with that said . I'm going to die soon.

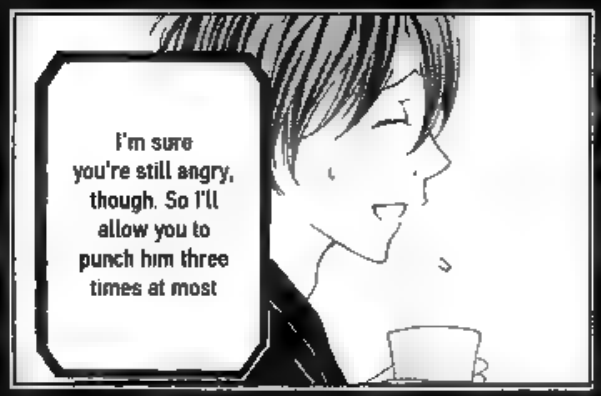

Those that play a role on stage cannot ignore the scene and do as they will.
Rather, finishing your part and grace fully exiting the stage is the true measure of accomplishment.

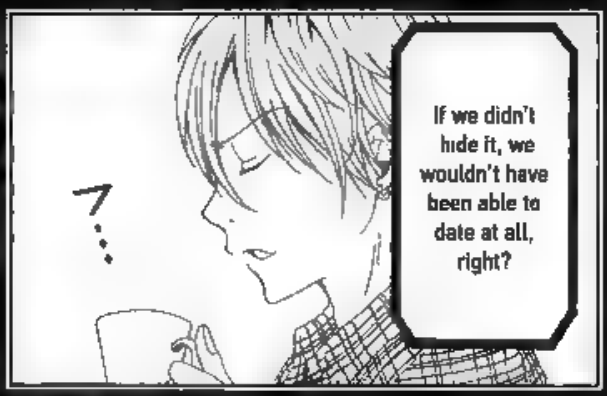
There is no need to grieve my death.
I am the "Magician of Exodus."

In other words..
My role has come to an end.
The tree has been defeated, after all.
The two of you should understand without me belaboring the point.
Well... I'm sure this leaves all sorts of loose ends, so I leave it to you to clean things up.
Don't let my death weigh you down.
Go and live happy lives.


Don't be mad at Yoshino-san forever because we were dating, ok?

コホン
Ah, Mahiro.


I'm sure you're still angry, though. So I'll allow you to punch him three times at most


フ…
If we didn't hide it, we wouldn't have been able to date at all, right?

Yoshino-san.

I think you had to put up with quite a lot to go out with me.
Not just me, but an older brother like Mahiro around too...it was rough, right?
How-ever.
Thanks to you, I enjoyed each and every day.

I'm so thankful that someone like you was there for me. Someone who didn't fear me, who always made me feel that you were on my side...

Even if you knew I was the "Magician of Exodus"...
You'd still call me Aika-chan, like nothing had changed at all, right?

You always watched over me.
Mahiro... you too.
When I was with you, I could just be a normal little sister.
I'm grateful for that as well.

There was no need for that at all, but still, it made me happy.

Thanks to the two of you, I was able to experience what I could not have as the "Magician of Exodus."
And because of that, I can accept my imminent death
This is getting awfully gloomy, eh?
Let's leave things at that.

Well then.
Mahiro, Yoshino-san – I pray for happiness in your future
Last of all...

As a special presentation...
I will now strip FULLY NUDE.
IDIOT... STOP...!!
Just kidding Were you looking forward to it?

TAKE CARE NOW.
SEE YA.
Ah, shit.
Up to the very end, she...!
Haa~
YEAH.
YOU SHOULD PRAISE ME MORE FOR THAT
YOSHINO.
IT WAS TOUGH BEING HER BOYFRIEND, HUH?

I'M NOT REALLY THE TYPE WHO VISITS GRAVES, BUT .
AIKA, THERE ARE SOME THINGS I WANT TO SAY TO YOU.
AND IT LOOKS LIKE THIS IS THE ONLY PLACE I CAN, NOW.
NOW THAT THINGS HAVE FINALLY ENDED, I FIGURED I'D AT LEAST COME BY ONCE.

AIKA...
THAT'S WHY YOU QUOTED SHAKES-PEARE.
IT RESONATED WITH YOU.
TO YOU, LIFE WAS A ROLE TO BE PLAYED ACCORDING TO THE SCRIPT THAT SOME ONE ELSE WROTE.
AND THAT WAS THE WAY IT WAS TO END, AS WELL.
BUT AIKA...
AND UPON INHERITING THE POWER AND KNOWLEDGE AND SPIRIT OF THE "MAGICIAN OF EXODUS"
PERHAPS THAT'S REALLY HOW IT WAS FOR YOU.

YOU DID THINGS YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE, AND DIDN'T DO THINGS THAT YOU SHOULD HAVE
YOU WERE IN THE WRONG.
I SAY THAT YOU WERE MIS-TAKEN.
YOU WERE MISTAKEN ABOUT ONLY BEING ABLE TO FOLLOW SOMEONE ELSE'S SCRIPT
AND THANKS TO YOU, WE SUFFERED SO MUCH. AND SO MANY PROBLEMS REMAIN.

YOUR BOYFRIEND MIGHT FIND A NEW LOVER AND BECOME SOMEONE ELSE ENTIRELY
BUT I'LL ALWAYS BE YOUR BIG BROTHER.
BUT YOU'RE MY LITTLE SISTER.
I'LL SAVE THE WORLD, LIKE YOU WANTED ME TO.
I WON'T FINISH...
BY FOLLOWING SOMEONE ELSE'S SCRIPT.
AIKA.

THIS ISN'T "HAMLET" OR "THE TEMPEST."
I DON'T KNOW HOW LONG IT MIGHT TAKE, BUT...
I'LL WRITE MY OWN ENDING.
不破
TAKE THAT FOR WHAT YOU WILL.
THAT IS WHO I AM.

DON'T WORRY.
I'LL FIND HAPPINESS IN MY OWN WAY.
MAHIRO SAID ALL THAT NEEDED TO BE SAID.
THERE'S NO NEED FOR ME TO ADD ANYTHING.
YOU DON'T...
HAVE ANYTHING TO SAY TO AIKA?

WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
PERHAPS YOU WERE MISSING SOMETHING IMPORTANT IN TERMS OF BEING HUMAN.
WHEN YOU AND MAHIRO WERE BORN.
SHE WAS A HELLISH GIRL.
EVEN I TRIED TO STAY AWAY FROM HER AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE.
I DON'T THINK ANYONE WITH NORMAL SENSITIVITY WOULD BE CAPABLE OF THAT.
GETTING CLOSE TO SOMEONE ICE THAT GOING OUT WITH HER, HOLDING HER HAND WITHOUT LETTING GO.

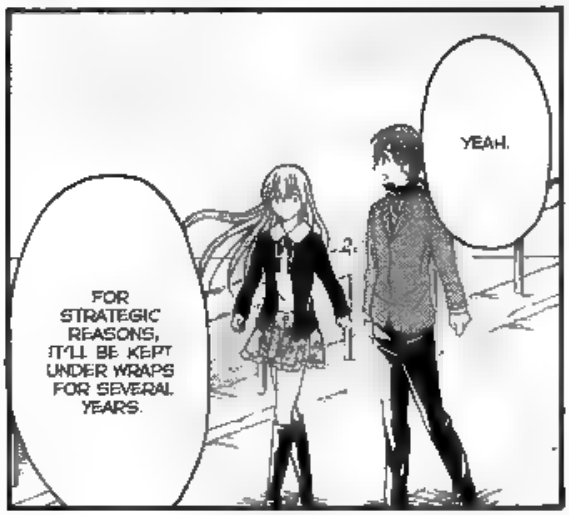
HELLISH, HUH?
MAYBE THAT'S PRECISELY WHY...
WE COULDN'T JUST LEAVE HER BE.
?!
IF WE DID, SHE WOULD HAVE BEEN ALONE.
AND HER PATH WOULD HAVE ONLY LED TO DARKNESS.

I THINK WE ALWAYS HELD ONTO HER SO TIGHTLY...
BECAUSE WE DIDN'T WANT TO SEE THAT HAPPEN.

IN THE END...
WE STILL COULDN'T HOLD ONTO HER.
I SEE..
PERHAPS THAT'S THE WAY OF THINGS...

YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT THE MESSAGE SAID YET, RIGHT?
THAT BEAM THAT LEFT A MESSAGE FROM SPACE WHERE THE "TREE OF EXODUS" USED TO BE.

HAKAZE-SAN.
THAT'S RIGHT


YEAH.
FOR STRATEGIC REASONS, IT'LL BE KEPT UNDER WRAPS FOR SEVERAL YEARS.

OH YEAH... THE REPLY OR WHATEVER FROM THE ONES THAT SENT THE TREES?
HAS IT BEEN DECIPHERED?

OH?
SO WHAT WAS IN THE MESSAGE?

TO SUMMARIZE IT BRIEFLY...

BUT MAHIRO AND I RECEIVED A SPECIAL BRIEFING.
THEY SAID WE COULD TELL YOU AS WELL.

"Congratulations on completing this event.
Normally various other splendid events would follow, but due to circumstances beyond our control, our company is unable to continue at this time. We extend our apologies.
We will withdraw at this time, but will pray for your continued development and progress from here on in.
Why does it sound like a notice put up on the shutters of a bankrupt company?
I mean so what does it mean?
For any inconvenience our company's maintenance activities may have caused...
We ask for your understanding."
TERRIBLE, RIGHT?
IT MEANS, THERE'S NO TELLING WHAT WILL HAPPEN NOW GOING FORWARDS, SO YOU GUYS DO AS YOU PLEASE

IT SURE IS!
YEAH...

LATE...

IT'S NOT TIME TO MEET WITH HANEMURA-SAN YET
WHAT'S WRONG?

AH, NOT HIM.

!?

ひら
MAHIRO!
SORRY!
ひら

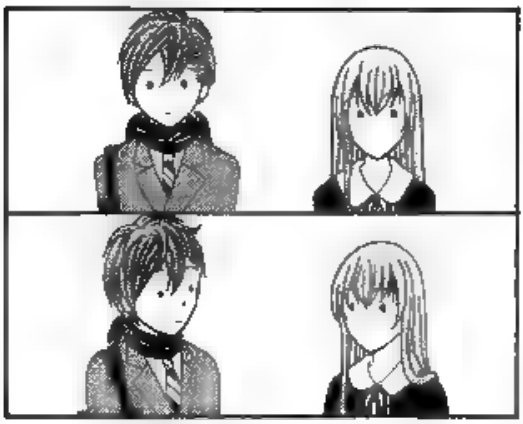
SORRY, SORRY!
I WAS CHECKING OUT THIS OLD BOOK STORE AND THERE WAS JUST ONE FIND AFTER ANOTHER!
BEFORE I KNEW IT, I WAS RUNNING LATE!

LOOK!
SO MANY FIRST EDITIONS FROM THAT SERIES I TOLD YOU ABOUT!

I TOLD YOU NOT TO BE LATE!
OH!
ゴズッ
CAN YOU GET THAT BAD HABIT OF YOURS UNDER CONTROL JUST FOR TODAY!

LET ME INTRODUCE YOU. THIS IS HAYASHI MIMORI.
MY GIRLFRIEND.

HEY, THAT HURTS!
IF I HAD WAITED UNTIL TOMORROW, SOMEONE MIGHT HAVE BOUGHT THEM!



HI!
I'M HAYASHI MIMORI.

GIRLFRIEND!?

THERE'S BEEN NO HINT OF THIS AT ALL!
THERE'S NOTHING WRONG WITH THAT! THIS IS JUST SO SUDDEN!

I CAN'T HAVE A GIRLFRIEND NOW?

YOU SHOULD KNOW ALREADY.
NO.

Ah...
Yeah, I knew about that girl, but...

THERE WAS A GIRL I SAVED IN ONE OF THE AREAS AFFECTED BY THE IRON SICKNESS.
THAT'S HOW YOU GOT MIXED UP IN THIS IN THE FIRST PLACE.

THIS IS THAT YOSHINO GUY, RIGHT?

じっ

AFTER THINGS CALMED DOWN, WE MET UP AGAIN...
AND STARTED DATING.
THIS IS HER.

HEY, LISTEN...
Hey... shut up!
HMPH. HE'S NOT NEARLY AS GREAT AS YOU WERE MAKING HIM OUT TO BE.
HEY, I SAID SHUT IT!
AND I WAS WONDERING WHY, BUT THEN IT HIT ME, HE MUST BE SCARED OF THAT GUY STEALING ME AWAY!
MAHIRO TALKS ABOUT THIS YOSHINO GUY ALL THE TIME, SO I WAS LIKE, HURRY UP AND INTRODUCE ME AS YOUR GIRL-FRIEND, BUT HE JUST WOULDN'T...
MY SISTER SAID THE SAME THING, BUT THE WHOLE TIME SHE WAS GOING OUT WITH HIM IN SECRET!
HEY, STOP IT!
You're so funny!
HAVE MORE CONFIDENCE, MAHIRO!
YOU'RE SO SILLY! AS IF I'D GO FOR SOMEONE SO DELICATE LOOKING!
THAT REALLY SURPRISED ME, THOUGH.
YEAH..
MAHIRO'S REALLY MOVING ONWARDS, HUH.

AND WHAT ABOUT YOU?
ARE YOU GOING TO START DATING ME SERIOUSLY SOON?

HAKAZE-SAN...
WHY ARE YOU SO HUNG UP ON ME?

ハァ!..

YOUR FEELINGS FOR ME WERE BECAUSE OF THE DANGEROUS SITUATIONS WE SHARED... JUST A TEMPORARY REACTION.
THEY'LL COOL DOWN BEFORE LONG.

YOU'RE GOING TO BE MEETING ALL SORTS OF PEOPLE FROM NOW ON.
YOU CAN FIND ANY NUMBER OF GUYS BETTER THAN ME.

I'm going to say this honestly
Because this pertains to you...

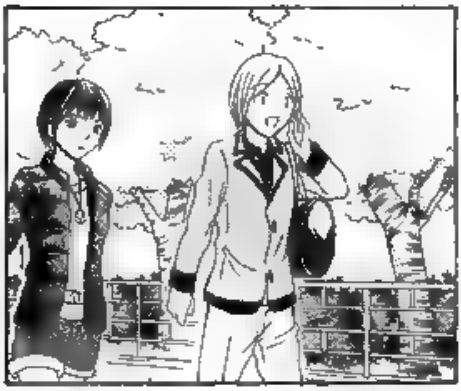
YOU'RE THE ONLY PERSON IN THIS WORLD...
THAT COULD POSSIBLY DEAL WITH A WOMAN AS COMPLICATED AS ME!

LISTEN UP!

LIKE I CARE!

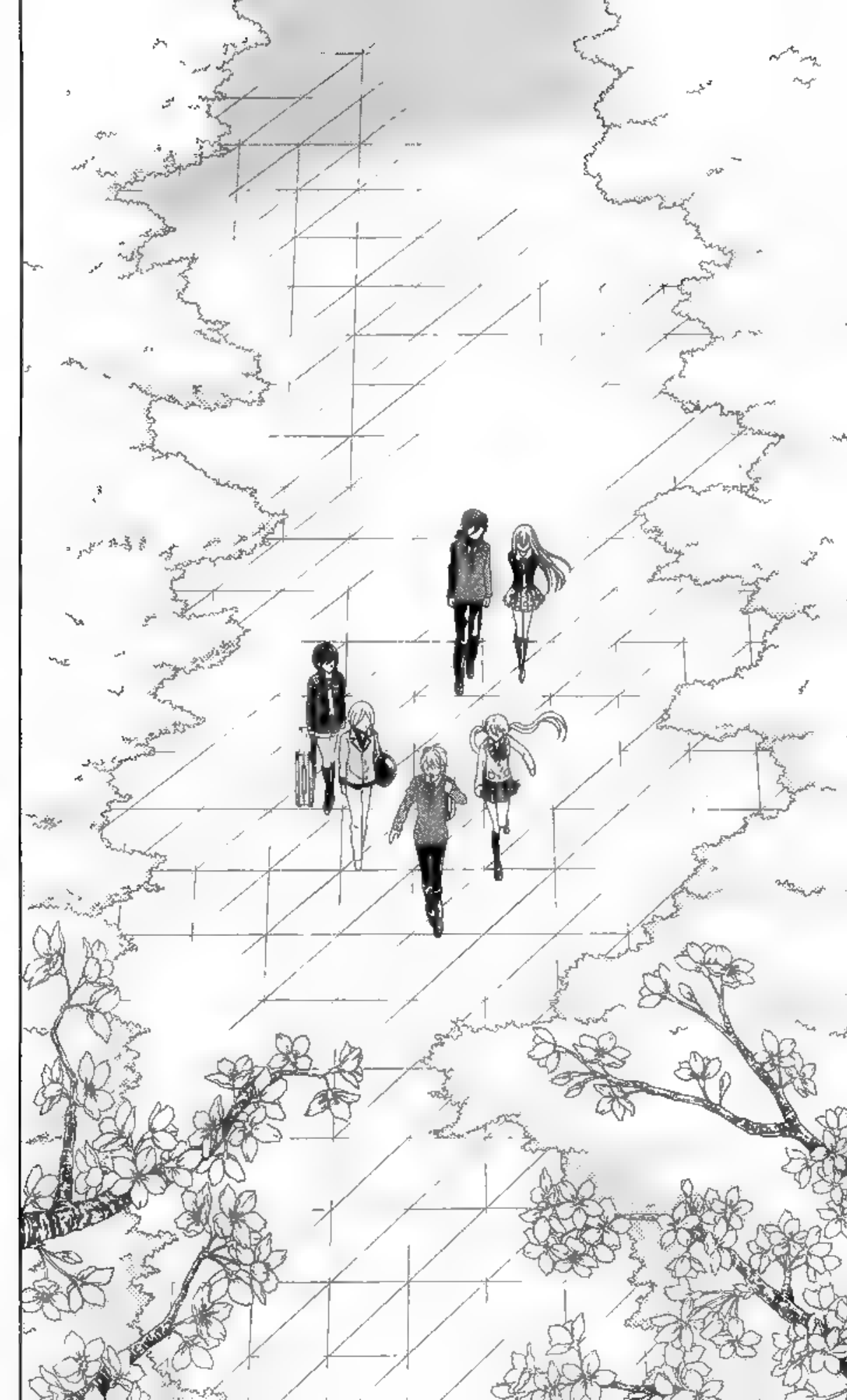
.....

UM...
IS THAT REALLY A REASONABLE WAY OF THINKING?



The beginning has ended

And the end is a new beginning



So let's start over again

And to each, their own tale...

THE END

絶園のテンペスト

次巻予告

うわあああああ

痴漢だ――っ!!

新しい恋が、ここから始まった――。

［絶園のテンペスト］第10巻は特別編!!

原作者あとがき

この物語は「とうじょうもないことをどうにかしようとしたけれどうもなかった」話、とまとめることができるかもしれません。あるいは「あいかわらず努力を真面目に出てしまったけれどやっぱり明日も努力を続けざるをえない」話、かもしれません。

アクションもSFも伝奇もラブコメもあって昔が笑って終わっている物語、一見にしてもあんまり楽しそうな感じがしないのはどうしたものでしょう。

城平京です。本編完結巻です。自分で言うのも何ですが、この物語はけっこう新しい容です。悲劇として有名な「ハムレット」を下敷きにしているのだから、そりゃあ人気な話になりそうなもんだ、と思われるかもしれませんが、大団円の「テンペスト」を比せ込んだとしても、やはり限界があります。その「テンペスト」にしても、「キャリバン」という登場人物が、こう提かにによって、印象の変わる内容であるかとも思われます。

そもそも自分がこれまで書き、なぜかわってきた他の作品を振り返ると、「ああ、しくじったなあ」と思うことばかりになってしまうので、「ああ、物語はあんまりないなあ」と思うことばかりになってしまうので、「ああ、あるわけでもないのですが、「自分の後も人生は続く」ことそれをこめて乗り切ってしまいますので、結局自分の中で、ううむ、必要なそうでないからそうなるのかもしれません。

ともかく同じテーマで書き続けても似たような物語しか作れなくなってしまいますので、今度作る物語はもうちょっと素直な前向きさを発揮したいものです。今回最終話で、主な登場人物が「ひとり」ではなく「ふたり」で歩き出したのは、原作者のそういう気持ちの表れと解釈していただけると角が立たないかと思われます。

心補足しておきますと、北条桜子さんと林美森さんの登場はずっと前から予定されていたもので、いくつかの条件が揃っていればもっと早くに姿を見せておりました。あいにくその条件が揃わず、最終話での初登場となってしまった次第です。

さて本編はこの巻で終幕となりましたが、あともう二巻だけ、「特別編」というものが出ることとなっております。本編では触れられなかった「その前」の話や「その後」の話、最終話になってようやく姿を出したキャラクターの「その時」の話など、話完結のショートエピソードを集めたオムニバス巻となります。

その巻によって特に本編の内容が変わったり劇的な進展があったりすることはありませんので、食後のお茶感覚で、時間等に余裕のある方に読んでいただければ幸いに思います。

ては特別巻でお会いできることを祈りつつ。

城平京

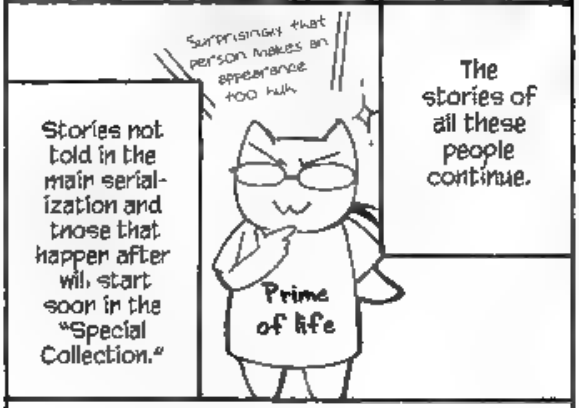
A WORLD WITHOUT MAGIC

WHEN PUSH CAME TO SHOVE, EVERYONE IN THE CLAN GOT BY JUST FINE.
IT DOESN'T REALLY MATTER IF WE CAN'T USE MAGIC.
That's my Bro bro for ya.
USING A SPEAR HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH MAGIC.
I BASICALLY JUST STOPPED WEARING OFFERINGS LIKE BRACELETS AND RINGS..
Open cans anymore...
I can't...
Fruit
Peach
It seems like this was what motivated the princess to grow up.
I'd use the can itself as an offering to get to the stuff inside!
So how have you been opening cans up until now
twist twist

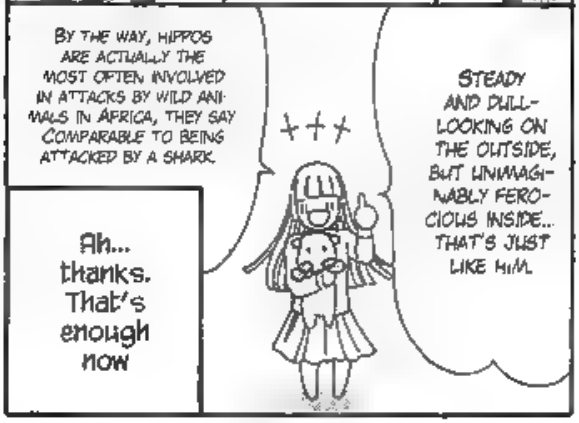
EPILOGUE

Hello everyone, this is Sano Arikide, the author.
Thank you for buying Volume 9 of "Zetsuen no Tempest."
Sano
A grand magic battle at the Pillar!
Humanity triumphs over the Pillar and is released from the false paradise...
PROTAGONIST HANEMURA
Makiro and Yoshino settle their scores...
And set out to save the world.
Love Aika
And that's how volume 9 went!
You read it what you can

THE STORY CONTINUES...


The stories of all these people continue.
Surprisingly that person makes an appearance too huh.
Prime of life
Stories not told in the main serialization and those that happen after will start soon in the "Special Collection."

SHE LOVES HIPPOS


BY THE WAY, HIPPOS ARE ACTUALLY THE MOST OFTEN INVOLVED IN ATTACKS BY WILD ANIMALS IN AFRICA, THEY SAY COMPARABLE TO BEING ATTACKED BY A SHARK.
STEADY AND DULL-LOOKING ON THE OUTSIDE, BUT UNIMAGINABLY FEROCIOUS INSIDE... THAT'S JUST LIKE HIM.
Ah... thanks. That's enough now

ガンガンコミックス

絶園のテンペスト

~THE CIVILIZATION BLASTER~

絶園のテンペスト 9

2013年5月22日 初版

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Staff Notes:

Translator - Waychanger:

We've finally made it! I'v had the pleasure of being the translator for the plurality of this series, ever since EGS picked it up at Chapter 12 back in 2012. After more than 4 long years, with many interminable delays, staff departures, and breaks during that period of time, I'm so happy and relieved to have carried the translation of this series through to the end. It is a bit bittersweet to finally see off my longest-running translation project. At the same time, I'm proud of having seen through both of the series I took on when I joined EGS (Donten ni warau and now Zetsuen no tempest), even though it took years to finally get here. And with the completion of this project, my time at EGS is at an end as well, at least for now. It's been a pleasure working with everyone here at EGS over all these years, and I've truly enjoyed the journey this manga has taken me on. I hope all of you have enjoyed the series just as much.

Typesetter - Kyraptorin:

I took on this project because after watching the anime I learnt the manga had not all been fully scanlated, which I thought was a shame. My OCD took over and thinking only a few chapters remained it would not take long to complete. Boy, was I wrong. The chapters were so long (T_T) After my initial shock it was actually an enjoyable manga to typeset and am very glad I got to be part of this project and see it through to completion. Did I mention the chapters were very long? I hope you all enjoyed it as I certainly thought it was a great story and the ending was satisfying. Well its back to work for me, I still have other great projects to work on and not enough time (((;°_°)))
Oh yeah almost forgot to say them chapters were sooooo long!

Cleaner & QC'er - Ell:

Oh... wow... we reached the end... O.O
I dont have much to add, so I would just like to thank Way and Kyraptorin for working with me for this long . Also, special thanks to Mztlplx for proofreading- couldnt have done it without him <3

I hope you all enjoyed the manga ^^.

easy going scans
www.egscans.com

ZETSUEN NO TEMPEST

by SHIRODAIRA Kyou and SAIZAKI Ren

If you like this manga please support its creators by buying a copy of the original book.

Zetsuen no Tempest ch 44

Credits

Translator: Waychanger
Proofreader: Mztlplx
Cleaner: Ell
Redraw p.207-208: Forget me not,
p275-276: RegularGuy
Typesetter: Kyraptorin
QC: Ell

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